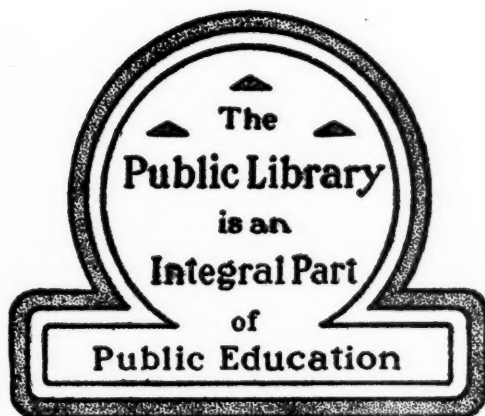


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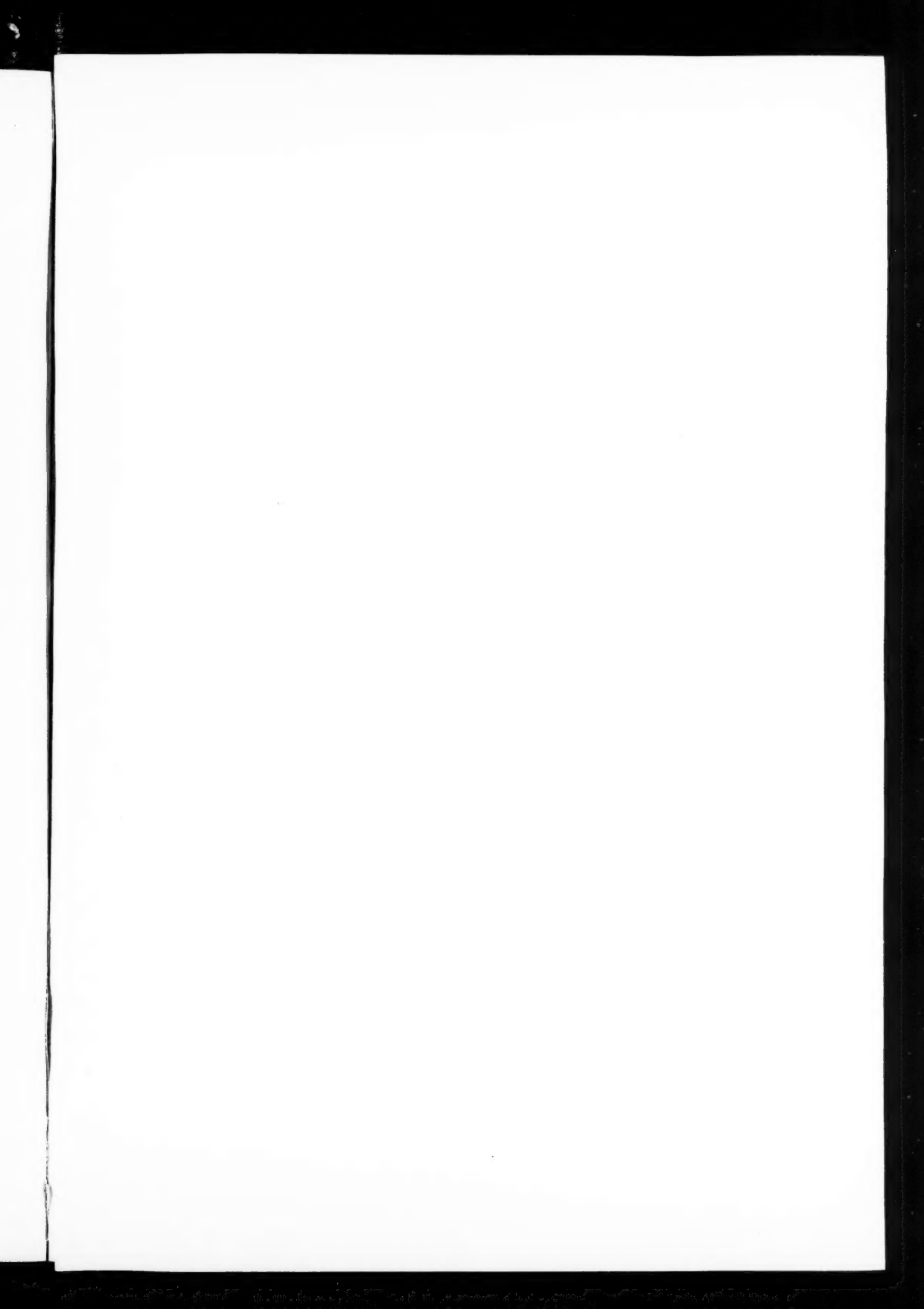
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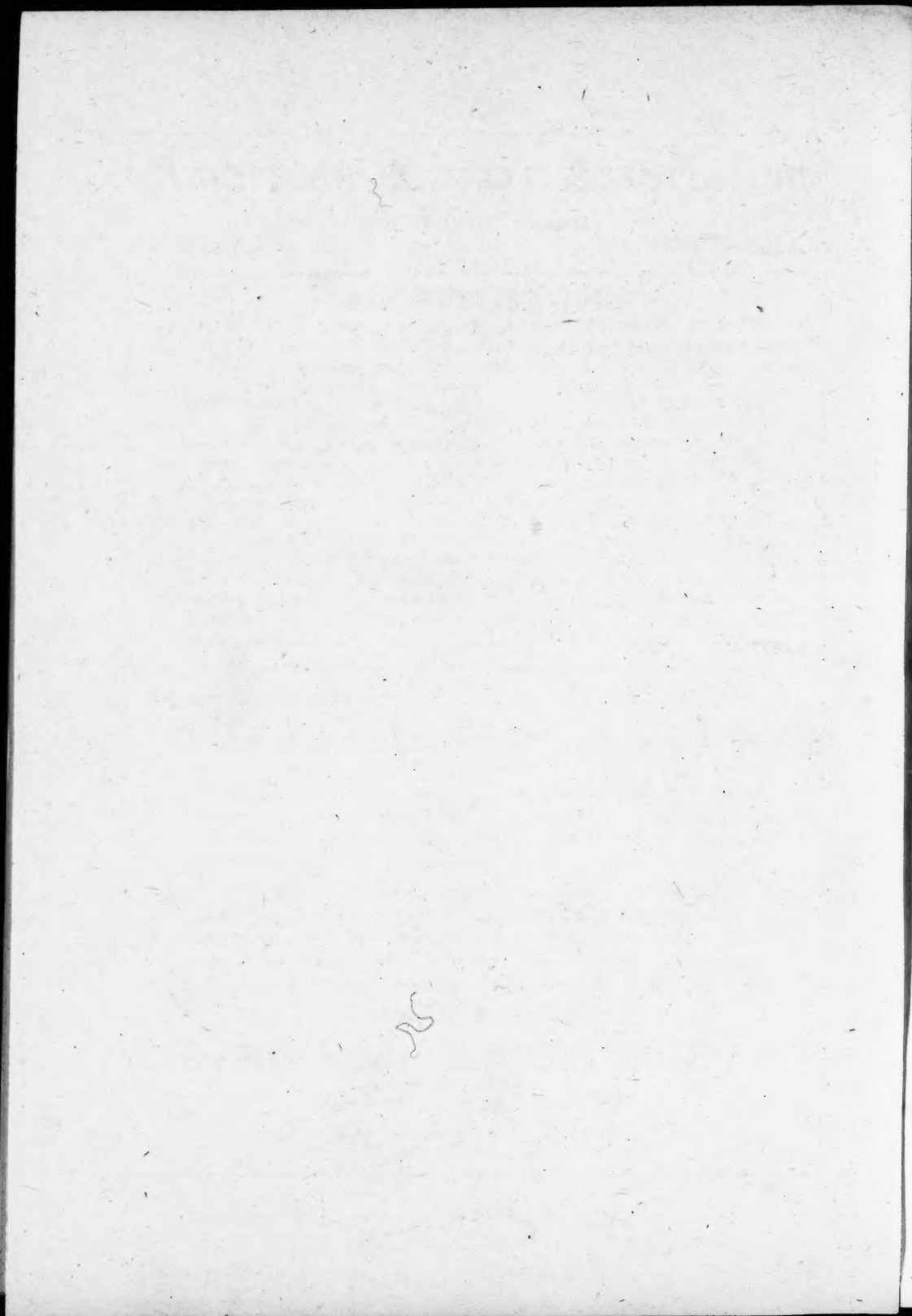
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# Public Libraries

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# Public Libraries

(MONTHLY)

Vol. 15

July, 1910

No. 6

## Work with Technical Literature

E. H. McClellan, technical librarian, Carnegie library, Pittsburgh

It is not at all the purpose of this article to discuss in detail the working of a scientific and technical library or department of a library, nor to give information to libraries which already have thriving and successful departments of applied science. It is written merely with the hope that it may be of some slight interest to those libraries which contemplate the establishment of technology departments. Its purpose is, therefore, merely to offer suggestions to librarians inexperienced in the use of technical literature; to mention and in some cases to discuss briefly, a few of the available aids to the organization and management of such a department; to call attention to some of the methods which have proven satisfactory in service; and possibly to suggest a few pitfalls to be avoided.

The selection of technical literature is a rather difficult problem for the librarian who is wholly unfamiliar with technical work. Numerous guides to technical book selection have been published.

Published lists of selected books on technical and industrial topics do not long retain their value. Industrial progress is so rapid that the best technical books of five years ago are in most cases not the best today, hence the importance of a constantly up-to-date source of reliable information on technical books. The source which will be found most helpful permanently is the book review columns of reputable technical and trade journals. Most of these journals review at least a few books in their special field. In our own library, where our field of activity is a varied one and our periodical list

quite extensive, we consider the reviews in all the journals received, always keeping in mind the nature of the journal and discriminating between the review in a reputable publication, and signed by an authority, and the review written by an irresponsible office assistant from the preface of the book, or the publisher's announcement. Every library which attempts to do reference work along technical and scientific lines will need at least a few journals, and having chosen these along the lines of local interest, the reviews will aid greatly in the selection of books along similar lines.

The name of the publisher is at least a clue to the reliability of the book. Of course some good books are privately printed, and much valuable reference material has its source in the official publications of federal, state, municipal and scientific organizations; but in general the important new books will be obtained from certain regular publishers. The reputable publishers of technical books are few in number and the better ones, by refusing books of doubtful value, have gradually obtained a standing which, while not an accurate guide to the value of the books published, is at least something. The author's name is another guide. The works of many deceased authors are and will probably remain standards, especially in pure science. There is also quite a respectable number of living authors whose names have come to be a fair guarantee of the value of their books, authorities such as Ira Remsen on chemistry; David Starr Jordan on zoölogy and ichthyology; Mansfield Merriman on various phases of civil engineering; T. A. Rickard on mining; Heinrich Ries on economic geol-

ogy, with special reference to clays; Liberty Hyde Bailey on agriculture; C. P. Steinmetz on the theoretical side of electrical engineering, and W. P. Gerhard and H. B. Bashore on problems of domestic and sanitary engineering.

Of course it does not always follow that because a writer has produced one good book, his others will be equally meritorious, and there will never be any unanimity of opinion as to the value of any one man's works; but in general the works of such authors as those mentioned above are reliable and will meet the approval of well-informed technical men.

To librarians nothing need be said about the importance of a table of contents and a satisfactory index, except to state that these requirements apply with especial force to technical books and are indispensable if books are to be of much value for reference. Technical writers are fortunately coming to realize the importance of bibliographical references, and many of the recent books leave little to be desired along this line. The bibliographic work in some cases is remarkable for its extent and convenient arrangement; e g. works such as Mead's "Water power engineering," Boverton Redwood's "Petroleum," Taylor & Thompson's "Treatise on concrete, plain and reinforced," and Gebhardt's "Steam power plant engineering." A few books possess bibliographies which, in addition to being extensive, are especially valuable by reason of descriptive or evaluative notes on the works listed. In this class come Rosenhain's "Glass manufacture," Stoughton's "Metallurgy of iron and steel" and Armagnat's "Theory, design and construction of induction coils," in each of which the bibliographic notes give a concise, intelligible review of the existing literature on the subject. Such works will be found wonderfully helpful in the choice of further literature along the same line. (Each of the books mentioned in this paragraph, though rather technical, will be found

the most useful one on its subject for the ordinary library.)

Text-books of the better correspondence schools are good library material. Formerly there was considerable difficulty in obtaining these books without enrolling for the course which they covered, but they are now offered freely to libraries.

The correspondence school sets are usually extensively advertised as reference sets, but they are not exactly that in the ordinarily accepted use of the term. Prepared as they are for the most elementary instruction and designed to entirely take the place of personal instruction, they are necessarily free from mathematics and from involved explanation of principles. Their greatest use to the trained engineer is in those comparatively rare cases in which they deal with subjects not elsewhere treated. Their chief value is in covering a wide range of subjects and in being up to date. Their users are largely amateurs. They are by nature rather text than reference books, and for reference purposes they are valuable, just as any extensive set of good elementary text-books would be.

Several sets or series of technical books are worthy of attention. The "Van Nostrand science series" (50 cents each) includes a large number of titles, mainly on engineering topics. They are brief but good. Are not indexed. The "Power handbooks" (\$1 each) are practical works devoted to separate branches of power plant engineering. The nine volumes so far published have been largely compiled from *Power*. The "Machinery reference series" (40 cents each, paper 25 cents) now numbers 50 v. Each deals very briefly with some special branch of machine design or shop practice. The books of the "Westminster series" (\$2 each) are more comprehensive than any of the foregoing. They treat many practical subjects in a semi-technical way. About 20 v. have been issued. A valuable series of German monographs, mainly on chemical technology, is "Hartleben's chemisch-technische bibliothek" (1-6 marks each). This set covers a

wide range of subjects, many of which are not treated elsewhere. The set now numbers about 330 v., of which only a very few have been translated into English.

Modern industrial progress is so rapid as to outstrip the publication of books, hence periodicals, which really form a monthly or weekly encyclopedia of technology, have necessarily become one of the most important adjuncts of a successful technology department. A judiciously chosen collection of technical journals is of much value aside from its main purpose of furnishing an up-to-date record of technical progress. Where space and finances will permit of binding and storing the more important journals, they will form an extremely valuable source of information. It is advisable, therefore, to select those journals which are adequately indexed in the annual or semi-annual volumes. (Only a very few publish general indexes covering long periods.) This feature is highly important, since the various general indexes to technical literature which claim to index large numbers of journals do so only in part. Only the leading articles are included and much valuable material in letters, notes and editorials is rendered accessible only through painstaking indexing of the individual volumes. As a rule, the engineering journals will be found more satisfactory in this respect than the trade journals or the publications of minor technical societies. Other features of journals are worth considering. In mining and metallurgical journals market reports are of considerable interest at the time of their appearance and of frequent value for reference, while summaries and statistics which some journals make a practice of publishing annually are very helpful. The reliability and adequacy of the journals as a source of book reviews is highly important, and the practice of giving in each or in frequent issues abstracts of articles on kindred topics from other journals and transactions is worth considering, especially in libraries which

cannot purchase many of the general technical indexes.\*

The selection of books for the open shelf will be influenced by much the same considerations as the selection of books for the general technical collection. If the tastes of the community are not very well known previous to the opening of the department, and if new books are being added rapidly, frequent changes will be found expedient, especially where open shelf space is limited. Sets of periodicals, with their indexes, are among the most useful additions. In our technology department, where we have open shelf space for approximately 14,000 v., we find it best to keep in one place all indexes (except patents), thus expediting the consultation of all the indexes on any one subject.

A frequently ignored source of information is the trade literature of manufacturers and dealers in various lines. Formerly mere lists of prices and dimensions, cheaply printed on poor paper, they now represent the highest type of the bookmaker's art, and often contain much valuable technical data not readily found elsewhere. Publications of some of the older firms have, through judicious revision secured recognition as standard reference books in their line. Many of the publications are valuable on account of their timeliness. The earliest printed descriptions of many processes and mechanical devices are found in these catalogs, the descriptive matter going through the printer's hands while the newly designed machinery is in process of construction in the shops, the literature and the finished machine appearing simultaneously.

During the early stages of new industrial developments, such as vacuum cleaning, the trade catalogs afford about the only source of information outside the patent records. These catalogs are an inexpensive source of information. Progressive firms are begin-

\*For further information on technical indexes see "Technical bibliographies and indexes appearing serially," reprinted from the bulletin of the Carnegie library of Pittsburgh, June, 1910. Price 5c.



ning to realize the advertising value of a place on the shelves of a technical library with a following of engineers, mechanics and contractors. At the Carnegie library of Pittsburgh our trade catalog collection is of rather recent origin but it now numbers more than 3500\* catalogs, sets of bulletins, etc., representing over 1000 firms. Besides the catalogs there is a class of literature known as "House organs," serials such as the Joseph Dixon Company's "Graphite," usually free for the asking and of considerable temporary interest, though generally not of sufficient value to justify keeping them permanently. We bind a very few; the current numbers of 80 or 90 others are kept on a large table and receive considerable attention from the public.

The method of cataloging books and the question as to whether circulating books shall be charged in the technology department or in the regular loan department are matters to be decided according to local conditions. In Pittsburgh all the charging is done to much better advantage in the loan department, thus leaving the technology department free for reference work and advisory work with such borrowers as may require it. Our card catalog includes all books in the library on natural science and useful arts. It comprises three files as follows: 1) Author catalog. 2) Subject catalog arranged by the Dewey decimal system. 3) Index to subject catalog, arranged alphabetically, giving with numerous cross-references the numbers under which books on any topic will be found in the subject catalog. Part 3 has been printed also in pamphlet form.

The general layout of the technology room and the details of equipment will have much to do with its success. In planning a new department avoid alcoves which cannot be readily seen by the desk attendant. If circumstances compel such an arrangement it will be wise to assign to the hidden corners volumes of large

size and so far as possible of slight value. An advantageous feature is one or more small private rooms, where dictation to a stenographer, the noise of a typewriter, the discussion of maps by a teacher and her students, or of patent drawings by an engineer and his client, need not disturb the quiet of the general reading room. Three of our rooms equipped with adjustable drawing tables have proved popular with draftsmen, architects and engineers.

Special collections, advertising of exhibits and publication of printed matter will be successful just in so far as they are timely. Of the technical bibliographies occasionally published in our *Monthly Bulletin*, one on "Steam turbines" came out when turbine manufacture was being taken up on a large scale by a local company, and only one book in English existed. Lists on "Flood protection," "Smoke prevention," "Garbage disposal" and "Metal corrosion" (including electrolysis of pipes by electric currents) appeared just when these subjects were being agitated in our city. A list on "Electric driving in steel mills" was published coincidentally with the organization of a new society devoted to this very subject. Just recently the building codes of all the more important cities have been collected, following the appointment of a commission to revise the Pittsburgh code. Whatever success these lists and collections have achieved has been in large measure due to their opportune appearance, just as a demand for the information was beginning.

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Mrs Theodora Brewitt, for some time connected with the Wisconsin library school as instructor, has been appointed librarian of the State normal school of Lewiston, Idaho.

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Magdalen Evans, N. Y. '09-'10, has been appointed librarian of the South Dakota normal school library at Spearfish to succeed Leta E. Adams, who has resigned in order to finish her course at the library school.

\*Actually the number is much larger. This enumeration considers each series of bulletins or circulars as a single catalog.

### The Man and His Book

Wm. F. Seward, librarian, Binghamton, N. Y.

The Binghamton public library has for clients a population of about 45,000—a mercantile and manufacturing community. Its industries, for a small community, cover a wide range—shoes, silk, electrical construction, glass, combs, foundries and manufactures of metal employing many skilled workmen where knowledge of tools, lathe practice and tool-making is requisite. The steady growth of the city serves to keep the carpenters' union, one of the largest in the town, rivaling in numbers the printers' union.

The library began less than six years ago with about 10,000 v. and now has less than 25,000.

For books we can spend only \$2500 annually. It is pertinent to my subject to summarize our local conditions, as there is a widespread feeling that only the large library in the great city can do intelligent and effective work among wage-earners. This is timidity's excuse, which permits the library to remain a well-meaning but ineffective institution living off the public purse, instead of a vital and aggressive force, touching the community at every point, serving the community in its every worthy interest, making life in its community better worth while.

In a word, the library should be the intellectual and social center, the highest expression of catholic and applied democracy, and this regard for the interests of the wage-earner is not exercised by forgetfulness of the scholar, the student, the public school, the artist, musician or the literary club. It is simply recognizing the fact that the modern world in our cities is an industrial world and that it is dishonest to take the people's money and not to serve the whole people.

It was the policy of the trustees, therefore, while neglecting no class, to place special emphasis on work among the wage-earner, the skilled and unskilled artisan. It is not enough to put the tech-

nical book on the shelf—that's easy, that's a matter of dollars and cents. The man to whom that book would be of use must be won. He may feel that the library is only for "literary" people; he may cherish an ignorant contempt for "book knowledge." Ignorance, indifference, inertia are real obstacles to be overcome.

The library's initial policy was to popularize the library; to make it known to every man, woman and child in town; to attract as many people as possible to the library by means of exhibits and lectures. Lectures on history and travel, with lantern slides, crowded the assembly hall. Lectures on the local water supply; on cookery, with demonstrations; on electricity, with experiments, attracted to the library building hundreds of people who would not have come in response to an announcement of books. Reading lists, of course, accompanied the lectures. The varied exhibits in the art gallery also served a practical end in introducing the library and its resources.

An industrial arts exhibit—illustrative of the city's chief industries and showing processes and raw materials, and naming countries of their importation, as well as the finished product, drew a great attendance of men and was distinctively an exhibit for labor and the wage-earner.

The library must win public confidence, must get public opinion on its side, must inevitably and naturally suggest itself to the public mind as a force to be counted on for the public good—from books and pictures to playgrounds and promoting by suggestions and ideas a "safe and sane Fourth of July."

This, then, is the basis, the foundation—to win the public confidence, get public opinion on the side of the library. Then there will be a civic consciousness ready to listen to suggestions from the library—a state of mind which looks to the library for suggestions.

This library began by installing a small collection of carefully selected books on technical subjects. The librarian spoke before the Central labor union, told them of the resources of the library and invited

them to visit the building and meet the trustees and staff. Later when a citizens' library book fund was started, the labor unions were among the first to respond. A year later the Central labor union endorsed an appeal to the common council to increase the library's income because the library helped labor. The appeal was heeded, and the increase has been made permanent.

The library has on its unpaid staff the trained men and experts in the various trades and crafts (many of them have their own technical libraries). They use the library's catalogs of technical books, the lists of the libraries whose collections of technical books are entitled to respect, the technical magazines. From these and their own knowledge and experience they make valuable suggestions for the purchase of books and when the books are bought, they recommend them to men in their shop or factory. Lists of technical books are manifolded and copies sent—according to their nature—to the labor unions, to shops and factories, builders and contractors, merchants, Chamber of Commerce, Y. M. C. A. and Y. W. C. A. Sometimes these lists are annotated and always is it remembered that brevity is the soul of a technical list.

The technical magazines are examined and the titles of articles of special interest to this community are manifolded and sent every month to the addresses on our mailing list, as outlined above. The United States consular reports are also treated in the same way and furnish much valuable material. So that every few days the library is in direct communication with the wage-earner, the manufacturer, the merchant. And if any man thinks this is unnecessarily often, let him note what the merchant, the book publisher or the theater manager does in the way of publicity, "lest the public forget" him and his wares. The circuit is never permitted to be grounded. Moving pictures and other diversions have thrown away the key to their front doors.

The library must use iteration and reiteration. Newspaper publicity helps. It is the greatest and most easily available

agency for telling the entire community about the library. In Binghamton the library is as much a place of call for the newspaper reporters as the police court or the fire department houses. Our newspapers give the library, its annotated book lists, its lectures and its exhibits, etc., etc., about 120 columns of space a year. It is worth while for the library supported by public taxation (and which, like *Oliver Twist*, is always asking for more) to keep its public informed as to what is doing at the library.

New books on technical subjects are kept for a little while in a bookcase near the delivery desk, which every man must pass on entering the library.

In addition to publishing these lists and sending them to names on the mailing list, it is possible to secure their posting on the bulletin boards of many shops and factories.

No agency for telling the man in the shop about the book is to be ignored. Ignorance, indifference and inertia do not disappear by being left alone.

Although books for every trade and craft may be on the library shelves and publicity obtained, nevertheless there is yet a missing link in the line of communication between the man and the book. We of the library may be able to give expert help in literature, history, art, science, but when it comes to books on technical subjects, where are we? We are not engineers, or chemists or electricians. If we were, we would not be librarians. A university education does not supply the lack—on the contrary, it tends to take us further away from appreciation of the mental attitude of the wage-earner.

Information on technical subjects should be given by technical experts and the demands made by modern industrialism are not met by the university or library school, and it would be absurd to make technical work a part of library training.

The Binghamton library has attempted a solution of the question by initiating a plan for library assistance in technical work. This plan was made possible



through the coöperation of public-spirited citizens, each man a highly-trained expert in some phase of applied science and a master of its theory as well as of its practice. This volunteer faculty in technical work included the principal of a school of industrial arts and his subject was architecture, carpentry and mechanical drawing. A former city engineer, an all-around technical man, at present manager of a factory employing the highest priced skilled labor, took the chair of mechanical engineering. The electrical expert of a manufacturing plant had electrical engineering. Our city engineer, a man of wide reputation in his profession, took civil engineering. A mining and civil engineer headed the department of applied mathematics. A chemist, an author, an expert authority of state reputation, accepted an appointment to the chair of biology, chemistry and physics. Here, then, was a group of experts and enthusiasts, every man keen and eager for the experiment. Lists of the library's books in the various departments of instruction were brought up to date and manifolded for the use of the classes.

For the six classes a week there was a total enrollment of about 100, including men from the shops and factories, youths from the high school, and a few students who are taking a correspondence school course. It may be unnecessary to say that there was no fee or charge of any sort. Men were free to join any section or all sections. The primary purpose was to promote the intelligent use of the technical books in the library. There was no concerted method of instruction, as it was desired to let the experiment work itself out according to the conditions in each class. It was, however, highly individualized instruction. In some sections the members would ask questions coming up in the day's work. The leader would sometimes answer the question and sometimes suggest the books to be consulted for the answer. Individual courses of reading and study were outlined. One method was the filing of written questions and the follow-

ing week the instructor would return the question with the books to be studied indicated. Free discussion was the rule in every section and a growing interest and enthusiasm were manifest in the six weeks' course. In some sections the leader would begin with a short talk or paper on "How to study" or "How to originate a straight line," or "Local engineering problems."

It is evident that the experiment has large possibilities for getting together library and wage-earner, and for utilizing to a degree hitherto not attained, a library's technical resources. A plan something like the one we are experimenting with here must be put into a working program if the large sums of money put by city libraries into technical books are to give adequate returns on the investment by the use and assimilation of the books.

We shall resume the experiment in the fall. Last spring the enrollment was almost wholly from men who had been library borrowers. In the fall we shall try to at least double the enrollment, drawing this time from men who are now non-borrowers.

### Trade Catalogs in Public Libraries

C. C. Houghton, Public library, Washington, D. C.

The collecting of trade catalogs by large libraries is still a new undertaking, but one which has passed the experimental stage, as is shown by its success in Providence, Newark, Pratt institute, New York, Pittsburgh and Washington.

Catalogs are highly valuable in reference work on many subjects. It is often the case that a question can be answered from a catalog when all other means fail. They supplement the book collections and furnish material on recent developments in methods and apparatus which is not to be found in any books. Their usefulness depends almost entirely on the thoroughness with which they are analyzed, or their contents kept in mind by attendants, and for this

reason a systematic collection is practical only where a special staff or department pays attention to technical readers. It is possible for any library, however, to collect a large amount of semi-advertising material at little expense, which is worthy of being shelved with the main book collection; for example, some of the booklets of the Atlas Portland Cement Company, "Prevention of industrial accidents," by Fidelity and Casualty Company, etc.

Manufacturers are generally very willing to present their publications to such libraries as can make use of them. Several libraries have made known their wants through technical magazines, and as a result receive a mass of catalogs and pamphlets from all parts of the country. It would be a desirable project if a list of libraries could be compiled, stating the subjects on which they specially desire catalogs and this list published in several magazines, such as the *Engineerings News*, *Electrical World* and *American Machinist*. To avoid receiving too much literature, where the person in charge has not the courage to throw it out, a better plan is to select from the lists of current trade catalogs, which are printed in many of the technical papers.

It will often be found necessary to resort to circular letters, and a form letter may be prepared describing the undertaking, stating that it is new, that the catalogs will be made available to the public, and finally asking that the library be placed on the firm's mailing list. After the collection has been established the letters may give place to a form postal, with a request as follows:

Dear Sirs:

Your recent publication entitled .....  
.....  
has been brought to our attention as something desirable for this library. We should much appreciate a copy and would see that it is made available to the public.

The shelving or preservation is often a difficult matter, especially in an open shelf library. The collection should be near the attendant's desk and as much out of the way of the curious public as possible, in order to have thorough supervision and to protect it from unnecessary handling. Some libraries file in vertical filing cases. This necessarily divides the collection at some point, as thick catalogs cannot be kept in these cases. The shelf arrangement brings all the catalogs under one alphabet and makes them more accessible. Small bulletins for which no binder is provided, thin pamphlets and such other easily destructible material should be placed in manila envelopes properly marked. To keep the catalogs standing erect on the shelves, supports are used, about two feet apart. These can be easily adjusted by the attendant, but cannot slide, lean over or work loose by themselves.

It is essential that in starting a collection, careful thought be given to the system of accession, arrangement and indexing, in order that with growing size and complexity it will never become necessary to make radical and disheartening changes involving a vast amount of tedious work. The system will of course depend upon the scope of the collection, which in turn is proportionate in some degree to the size of the library and the character of the population. Various libraries have used various systems of arrangement, which are here classed under the following form heads, and their strong and weak points brought out:

1) Alphabetically by firms. By this arrangement there is no trouble in deciding where the catalog should be placed; there is only one place for it. Best if the firm is known. About 10 per cent of inquiries are for firms. As catalogs are arranged by firms, no firm index need be kept. A subject

index is necessary. Subjects scattered.

2) Accessioned, classified and treated like books, whether shelved separately or not. This arrangement is best for special non-public technical libraries with unlimited money. The work caused by it is too great to be undertaken elsewhere.

3) Classed by general subjects, such as electricity, mechanical engineering, building, printing, etc. This arrangement brings material together somewhat. As the subjects are general, it becomes necessary to look through large amounts of material to find special subjects, such as motors and tiles. Anyone knows general subjects; therefore, public and new attendants do not get confused or omit minor subjects, though they must look through more material. A very small subject list is required, with no cross-references.

4) Classified by subjects as closely as possible. Brings material on one subject together. Ninety per cent of inquiries are for subjects rather than firms. Shows weak points in collection. Requires subject and also firm index with cross-references. Best system where attendant knows subject divisions. Public can find material generally.

For a public library which aims to make the catalogs of use to the public as well as merely collecting

them, either the third or fourth system is obviously the best, and the choice between these depends upon the amount of staff time available. The fourth system is in use at the Washington public library, where a collection of 2500 pieces is successfully maintained by one attendant who gives to it three hours a week.

The following form, used by this library, serves both as a firm index, accession and request record.

When a catalog is to be sent for, the firm name and address are filled in, and the kind of request, postal or letter, specified. The card is then sent to the assistant, who sends out the requests, and when the catalogs arrive she sends them, with the form, back to the department. The same form is used when catalogs are received which have not been requested. On this form the date of classification is entered, also the subject heading and the title, providing it has a distinct one or one different from the subject heading chosen. The catalog is then marked with subject heading and placed on the shelves. A card index of subjects is filed beside the firm index. If this does not already contain the subject heading of a new catalog it is immediately inserted. On the backs of the cards in the subject index are written the name of the firms which have sent catalogs on that subject.

### *Cleveland Automatic Machine Co.*

Letter sent MAY 18 1910

Subject headings	Title	Date classified
<i>Lathes</i>	<i>Sen. Catalog</i>	JUN 9 1910

Form sent

Address

*Letter*

*Cleveland, Ohio.*

After our collection became established it was found that few new entries were necessary. In other words, the system is self-simplifying. By this system the catalogs can be easily kept up-to-date without a complete overhauling. Elimination also keeps the collection up-to-date. Old catalogs are withdrawn when new ones are received from the same firm and covering the same information. The firm index card shows whether new catalogs duplicate material.

The system described above has stood a three years' test. Seldom have the attendants been unable to produce material when called for either by subject or firm. Catalogs are allowed to circulate, and they are continually used both by attendants and by readers, who can very often find the material they wish, themselves.

#### A Satisfactory Method of Arranging Pamphlets

Louis Round Wilson, Librarian, University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill

The following method of arranging pamphlets has been employed satisfactorily in the library of the University of North Carolina:

1 Pamphlets, as received, are taken to the local printing office and thoroughly stapled so that their covers are tightly fastened to their bodies.

2 Thus stapled, they are placed in board and cloth covers furnished by Gaylord Brothers and made to resemble very thin books.

3 Abridged Dewey classification numbers are assigned because the pamphlet collection is ordinarily not large enough to justify the closer classification numbers provided for in the large Dewey. In some classes containing very few pamphlets the classification is made even less close than in the Abridged Dewey and only the general undivided numbers are used, e g, 670, 680, 690, instead of 670, 671, 672, etc.

4 Cutter author numbers are not given. Instead pamphlets belonging to one class are numbered serially from one on, e g, 945-1, 945-2, 945-3, etc.

5 The call numbers thus composed are marked on labels on the lower left corner of the pamphlets and the pamphlets are placed in numerical order in L. B. pamphlet boxes. The contents of each box is indicated by a label on the back of the box bearing the call number 945-1-, or 945-1-9, 945-10-17, 945-18-, etc.

6 These boxes are placed on the shelves at the beginning of classes. The absence of author initials in the author number or book number indicates that the publication is a pamphlet.

7 Each pamphlet is cataloged singly by author, subject, and title. This arrangement admits of close enough classification for the ordinary pamphlet collection and at the same time dispenses with the trouble involved in very close classification and in assigning Cutter author numbers. Since the pamphlet collection is not more than one-fourth as large as the book collection and grows proportionately, it seems unnecessary to use the large Dewey tables. The Abridged, or even the Abridged more abridged, seems ample. Time is saved both in the matter of classifying and assigning author numbers. The arrangement on the shelves is also satisfactory. The pamphlet boxes stand up well and present a very orderly appearance and their contents are easily accessible. Desk attendants have merely to be told that the absence of author initials indicates a pamphlet publication and that such publications are arranged in boxes in numerical order at the beginning of classes.

The method saves time and trouble for the classifier and cataloger. It does not complicate the work of the desk attendant. It makes the pamphlet a permanent, useful, accessible

publication. The objection that slightly unrelated subjects may thus be brought together and that pamphlets by the same author on the same subject published at different times may not stand immediately together, must be granted, and for those who consider these requirements essential the plan offers no help. But for the average borrower who uses the subject index and is not admitted to the stack and for the specialist who is admitted to the boxes themselves and is permitted to finger every pamphlet in the class desired, it is adequate and satisfactory.

It is obvious that considerable time is required by this method, but if a pamphlet is to be made useful it requires the same kind of treatment, in the main, that a book does. Judgment must be exercised in selecting only those of value. The worthless should be destroyed.

#### Public and School Libraries of Nova Scotia\*

W. M. Hepburn, librarian, Purdue university,  
Lafayette, Ind.

The following cities in Nova Scotia have made some progress in establishing libraries:

##### Yarmouth

The Yarmouth public library as at present organized, opened its doors to the public, March, 1905. Its history really began, however, in 1872 when Hon. L. E. Baker gathered a considerable collection of books and a museum in a building owned by himself and provided for a weekly exchange. This was free to the public and was carried on in this manner for 20 years, the circulation varying from 8000 the second year of its existence to 1475 in 1891-92. In 1892 the library was closed, opened again in 1894 for a few months, and finally books and museum were stored

in a warehouse. In 1899, Mr Baker, in his will, left the books mentioned together with \$8000 for a free public library on condition that \$8000 additional should be first raised and paid over to a society to be formed for the purpose. Such a society was formed, the first trustees elected on August 25, 1904, and the first officers on the first of September following, the library being opened as aforesaid on March 1, 1905. The yearly budget averages about \$1000. The income from investments of \$15,000 is \$620. The town gives an amount approximately equal to one cent on the hundred dollars of assessed value of town property, in round numbers \$400. \$350 goes to the librarian, from \$200 to \$250 for books and \$100 for magazines.

In 1906 the circulation was 26,759 of which fiction was 18,118, or 68.7%. At the close of 1909 the library contained 5744 v., and the circulation for the year ending August 31, 1909, was 22,819 of which 13,470 were fiction and 3357 juvenile. The falling off in the circulation last year is accounted for by the closing of the library and the fear of contagion during a smallpox scare.

The progress of the library is somewhat hampered by the shortsighted policy of the officers of the close corporation which governs it. The librarian, Herbert Killam, although without formal training, is a man of intelligence and energy and has developed the library so far as he has been permitted along good lines. He carries on work with the children and with the schools, has formed clubs for the young men of the town, makes excellent use of bulletins and reading lists, and gives the solitary instance in the province of a library really reaching the people. The librarian has made plans for an increase in the number of hours open, opening on Sunday afternoons and evenings during part of the year, a special assistant for the children's department, and more effective methods

\*The first half of Mr Hepburn's paper dealing with the development of government aid for libraries was given in June PUBLIC LIBRARIES.



of advertising the library among the people.

The library is open each week-day from two to five o'clock and from seven to ten o'clock p. m., and is free to all persons residing in the county of Yarmouth. Borrowers may take out two books at one time to be retained two weeks, except certain "seven day books." Renewal may be by post-card. A fine of two cents a day for overdue books is imposed. The library has printed its first annual report, January, 1907; its constitution and by-laws, 1905, a four-page leaflet "Information for borrowers" and several short lists of new books.

Another library in Yarmouth, known as the Milton library, seems to be at present more a book and magazine club than a library. However, it has had a long history, having been organized on Jan. 1, 1822, as the Yarmouth Book society. There was then an annual fee of \$3, with a monthly exchange of books. Among its scale of fines were the following: folding down a leaf, two pence; tearing a leaf, three pence per inch; grease spot, four pence; distinct thumb spot, two pence; break in the binding, four pence; misfolding a map, four pence. In 1860 the present name was adopted. The institution owns a small building at one end of the town, which is open on Saturday evenings from seven to eight o'clock for the exchange of magazines, of which it subscribes for 24, the numbers being drawn by lot by the members. The annual fee is now \$2. A union of the two libraries would seem to be in order. The population of Yarmouth is about 6000.

#### Amherst

Amherst, a thriving manufacturing town near the extreme northeastern boundary of the province, is another place where those interested in library matters have succeeded in obtaining some support from the town council. By a special act of the Legislature in 1902, a subscription library which had

existed since 1899 was taken over by the town, an annual grant of \$200 was voted for its maintenance, and six trustees appointed. It still remains a subscription library, however, with an annual fee of \$1.25. The library occupies a room 50 by 16 feet and has upward of 4000 v., of which three-fifths are fiction. It has an annual circulation of about 14,000 v. to 200 members. Each member may take two volumes for one week provided both are not fiction. A weekly exchange of books is provided for on Friday afternoon and evening.

This library embryonic as it is and far removed from our conception of a public library, is nevertheless doing a good work so far as it goes. This is due almost entirely to the energy of one of its trustees who is also its librarian, E. J. Jay, the principal of the schools and a bookish man. It was largely due to his efforts that a library of 350 v. collected by a young people's society of one of the churches was in 1899 rescued from a threatened disintegration and turned into a subscription library, which in four years had grown to 800 v. with 150 subscribers. For several years past, the local industrial firms have subscribed \$175 for the library, which with the grant from the town and membership fees brings the annual income up to \$600, of which amount \$500 is spent for books. In his annual reports, which since 1903 have appeared in the annual reports of the town, the librarian refers to the desirability of a special collection of books for young people and for mechanics, also for opening the library an additional evening during the week and providing periodicals and a few books of reference. Although the library has never appeared in any list of Mr Carnegie's gifts, the librarian states that "Mr. Carnegie would give \$5000 for a building, but would not permit a wooden one."

In his selection of books, the librarian uses the A. L. A. catalog and the

*Booklist* among other aids. In his budget for 1907 appears the item: "Periodicals necessary for librarian in his work, \$8.18."

There have been four printed catalogs of the library, the first in 1900 listing 466 v. and the fourth in 1906 with 2400. Supplements are issued from time to time. The books are grouped in four divisions: A, Fiction; B, History, Geography, Travel and Adventure; C, Philosophy, Religion, Science, Sociology, Useful Arts; D, Literature, Poetry, Essays, Fine Arts. Under each group books are listed alphabetically by title followed by the author's surname and preceded by a number which is really an accession number and which must be used when calling for the book. There are two columns to the page, a title a line, and the fourth catalog covers 36 octavo pages.

Mr Lay is also librarian of the High School library numbering at present about 700 v., which he describes as a sort of "secularized Sunday school library," consisting mainly of fiction suited to pupils of high school age. This is maintained by a tax of one cent a week per pupil during the 44 weeks of the school year. Each pupil is entitled to one book a week, and the books are distributed on Friday afternoon. The *Illustrated London News* and the *Windsor Magazine* are also taken. About 75 pupils have access to this library.

#### Baddeck

While on a brief visit to the Bras D'Or lakes in the Island of Cape Breton two summers ago, and with no intention of entering a library or talking shop, it was nevertheless a pleasant surprise to find in a little village tucked away in a bay on the north shore of the lakes, a library which might be said to have some claims to distinction. For we discovered that the first president of its board of trustees was George Kennan, that Mr and Mrs Alexander Graham Bell have been its principal

sponsors, that it has a Gardiner G. Hubbard memorial fund of \$500, the gift of Mrs Bell, and that its funds have from time to time been added to by the proceeds of lectures given by Mr Kennan, Mr Bell, Major J. W. Powell of Washington, E. J. Glave of New York and others.

The first steps toward the formation of the library were taken in the autumn of 1891 by Mr Kennan. The proceeds of a lecture by him with subscriptions from 10 citizens amounting to \$40 gave nearly \$90 for books, with which Mr Kennan purchased in New York 141 v. of standard literature which were sent to Baddeck in November. The sheriff of the county gave the use of his office in the courthouse and on or about Feb. 1, 1892, the library was opened to the public. There were 200 additional volumes obtained the following year. In 1895 the library was incorporated with 17 trustees.

In November, 1896, Mrs Bell proposed that the library be transferred to a building known as Gertrude hall, offering to pay all expenses involved in keeping the library open six afternoons or evenings each week from the fall of one year to the spring of the next, including the services of an attendant. This she has done since that date, much to the pleasure and profit of the young people as well as the adults of the community. The library is free to the citizens of the county of Richmond and many farmers living at a distance avail themselves of its privileges.

It contains many books of permanent value and few of its 2500 v. could be objected to by the most fastidious modern librarian. The proceeds of the Hubbard memorial fund are expended for books of permanent value relating to science, geography and travel.

The Library Bureau accession book is used and there is a card catalog on standard cards, the D. C. class numbers being used for all books except fiction. Books are charged however by the accession number. A printed cata-

log was issued about 1900, but the library has more than doubled in size since then.

The annual expenditure for books is from 80 to 90 dollars. From November to May the library is open every evening and afternoon at varying hours. During July and August, the tourist months, it is open each morning except Saturday, and on Saturday evening. During the remainder of the year it is open only on Saturday evenings.

Full membership in the library is apparently secured by being a subscriber to its funds. Others are admitted to associate membership by signing "Declaration A" if an adult, or "Declaration B," signed by parents or guardians for children under sixteen. The former of these interesting documents reads as follows: "I, John Doe, of Baddeck, in consideration of the privileges that may be enjoyed by me in, and offered me by, the Baddeck Public Library and Reading Room, for the year 190-- , do undertake and promise the Baddeck Public Library and my fellow Associates as follows:

"Any book I may receive from the library will be given the best of care by me, I will be answerable for it till I return it, and I will return it promptly and in as good order and repair as when I received it, reasonable usage only excepted.

"That, on returning the book, I will report to the librarian any defacement or damage to it.

"That I accept each book as in good condition and will be responsible (to the extent of its value marked in the 'Accession Book') for any damage to it as assessed by the Librarian, or for its detention or loss, if not returned to the Library within a reasonable time or on demand.

"That I will, upon my Honor, observe within the Library, all Regulations as to conduct or deportment, in addition to what is manifestly expected of me from my social position.

"That I will endeavor to advance the

interests and prestige of the Baddeck Public Library and Reading Room, so far as my opportunities and ability will serve me.

"Recognizing the obligations I owe to others patronizing the Library and Reading Room, and the courtesy due my fellow Associates, the Librarian, and the Officers of the Baddeck Public library, I subscribe myself,

The present librarian is Janie B. Taylor.

The library subscribes for or receives by gift a number of high-grade magazines.

A "Woman's Exchange" is conducted in connection with the library, where hand-made rag rugs, quilts, blankets, portieres, embroideries and other pieces of fancy work are sent by the farmers' wives and daughters of the surrounding country for sale to summer visitors.

Within sight of the village across the harbor on a beautiful point of land is Dr Graham Bell's summer home, and here many of his experiments with kites and flying machines have been conducted.

#### Halifax

Of Halifax, the oldest and the largest public library in the Province, we do not intend to write at length. Its history and methods of administration have already been told in these columns and elsewhere. This library is housed in the city hall and is handicapped by lack of space for reading and reference purposes, almost the whole of its available room being taken up with book stacks and delivery space.

The annual budget in 1907-08 was \$2753.05. Of this \$430.02 was spent for books and \$106.89 for magazines, \$1075 for salaries, and what seems the disproportionately large amount of \$705.46 for binding. The report of the librarian, contained in the annual reports of the city, does not give much important information, the greater part of it being taken up with the statement of the petit cash and the repair



and labeling of books and magazines. The total number of books is not stated, but it is in the neighborhood of 30,000 (26,000 in 1906), of which 666 were added during the year. The total number of cardholders is 5457 and the circulation was 72,786, of which 52,978 was fiction. In addition to this, 13,435 v. were used in the reading room for reference purposes. The circulation had increased about 6500 over the previous year. The population of Halifax is about 42,000.

#### Sydney, Cape Breton

Of the library at Sydney, in the Island of Cape Breton, the center of an important coal mining and steel manufacturing district, we are unable to give any very recent information. When the writer visited it three years ago, it was housed in one of the school buildings, was open only a few hours each week and consisted of only 1000 or 1500 v. Some persons interested in it had obtained an offer of a building from Mr Carnegie, but the town council refused to accept it. There was little or no interest in the project, although there is in Sydney an attractive field for a modern public library. The population is in the neighborhood of 12,000.

#### Truro

In Truro, a town of about 6000 people, the center of a farming and manufacturing community, and also an educational center containing the Provincial normal school, the College of agriculture as well as an efficient County academy, a library known as the Citizen's and academy library was organized a little over a year ago, and opened to the public, Jan. 15, 1909. It is said to be well patronized by students and public. In January, 1910, it had 1000 v., one-half being fiction and 500 v. were being added. The nucleus of the library was the collection maintained by the County academy in accordance with the requirements of the school law mentioned earlier in this article.

### Periodical Material Again

#### Editor of PUBLIC LIBRARIES:

In recent numbers of PUBLIC LIBRARIES my name and ideas have been accorded an amount of attention altogether disproportionate to their importance. As there seems to have been serious misunderstanding, however, I must ask for a little more space in which to re-state succinctly my convictions.

Special libraries are confronted with special problems, and must arrange to have readily available the special material—much of it unknown to periodical indexes—which is to them indispensable. Mr Foster's method is a natural and obvious one for this purpose.

Each library may be regarded as a special library in respect to its local interests and peculiarities.

So much is, and has always been granted.

But, I do not think it expedient for the ordinary library to dismember its ordinary periodical material, and arrange the fragments in a vertical file. As this material is readily accessible by means of periodical indexes, such procedure seems to me a foolish waste of time and money.

ASA DON DICKINSON.

#### Cheering News from Mr Crunden

Word from personal friends of Mr Crunden, formerly librarian of St. Louis public library, is to the effect that his mind is perfectly clear again, that he spends much time in reading the newspapers every morning, and enjoys it so much that he dislikes interruptions. His body is improving slowly, and while he is more conscious of his disabilities, this is more than made up for by his enjoyment of life.

His many friends will wish that the improvement may be permanent and that he may continue to grow better for a long time to come.

## Public Libraries

MONTHLY - EXCEPT AUGUST AND SEPTEMBER

Library Bureau	- - - - -	Publishers
M. E. AHERN	- - - - -	Editor
Subscription	- - - - -	\$2 a year
Five copies to one library	- - - - -	\$8 a year
Single number	- - - - -	25 cents
Foreign subscriptions	- - - - -	\$2.25 a year

Entered as second-class matter May 17, 1886, at the Post-office at Chicago, Ill., under act of March 3, 1879.

By the rules of the banks of Chicago an Exchange charge of 10 cents is made on all out-of-town checks for \$10 and under. In remitting subscriptions, therefore, checks on New York or Chicago banks or post-office money orders should be sent.

When a change of address is ordered, both the new and the old address must be given. The notice should be sent two weeks before the change is to take effect.

If a subscriber wishes his copy of the magazine discontinued at the expiration of his subscription, notice to that effect should be sent. Otherwise it is assumed that a continuance of the subscription is desired.

Copies falling to reach subscribers, through loss in the mails, will be duplicated without charge if request to do so is received within 30 days after publication. Later than that duplicate copies can be supplied only at regular rates

**The school and the library**—A gratifying development in appreciation of the value of a knowledge of the use of books is shown by the increased number of higher institutions of learning that are offering courses in the care and use of school libraries. A number of state universities and many normal schools have entered library training in their courses of study. Columbia university has an apprentice class of high standing and the University of Chicago has just opened a regular department in library economy, the course offered leading to a degree.

There are new avenues of opportunities in these lines for closer relations between libraries and schools, in rational coöperation in impressing the power of books on those who need them. The library department of the N. E. A. has played an important part in bringing about this condition of affairs, and as the condition enlarges, as it surely will, the importance of careful, earnest work by this department of the N. E. A. will increase.

**"Bargains" in library assistants**—It is a curious thing, but not at all unusual, that librarians should write into their reports and publish the seeming joy that fills their hearts that they are able to secure "intelligent, efficient service" from college graduates and others at a cost so low that one wonders how the "intelligent graduate" manages to exist on it. A recent report announces that the library that publishes it has not been able to retain the young men and boys which it preferred to have, but has secured girls, and now everything is joyful and satisfactory.

Nowhere in the report is credit given to the households that largely support these girls, so that they can give their services to the library, though some space is given to the story of making the library grounds more attractive. Everywhere is an account of increased work and nowhere is recorded increased pay.

The library cited is not alone in this, similar conditions exist in many directions. It is perhaps inevitable that for many years to come, somewhat of the remuneration of subordinate librarians must lie in the personal satisfaction gained in the work, but that the chief librarians should complacently flaunt their joy over the situation is deplorable.

The public means everybody, librarians are a part of the public, and their right to a just consideration is not annulled by the fact that they administer the public's institution. Librarians ought to be more insistent for better salaries for good workers, and where their pleas are not heeded, the least they can do is to deprecate

the fact and give special credit for good work done in spite of the low wage, instead of rejoicing over the "bargains" obtained in the field of faithful workers.

**An unwise movement**—A letter from a prominent librarian suggests that the American library institute go out of existence and that its place be taken by the council of the A. L. A., adding that this was the purpose of those who lately advocated the enlargement of the council.

The council of the A. L. A., as at present formed, can never take the place of such a body as the Institute could be made under proper conditions. That the latter has not attained its fullest measure of usefulness as yet, is due to a hostile spirit on the part of some of its members, a deplorable fact and a curious one.

There is no compulsion on the part of anyone in regard to being a member of the A. L. I., and why membership was accepted when proffered, and continued by some who are heard often to speak disparagingly of it, is open to question.

As PUBLIC LIBRARIES has pointed out before, the aim of those who organized the Institute was to provide a deliberate body that could meet together without formal ceremony, speak frankly and freely, discuss without fear or favor the trend of the library movement and gain such wisdom as would develop from such a body of experienced persons bound together only by professional spirit. That this object has not been more fully attained is due to the hostile feeling before mentioned and which

is sometimes manifested in no creditable manner.

The officers of the A. L. A. in caring for the interests of the association as they should be cared for, will find little time for deliberation and are prevented by the very fact of their office from speaking as freely as might be desirable before the varied minds represented in the council.

Furthermore the tinge of politics is always in evidence whenever an association election comes on, perhaps it is inevitable, but it does not conduce to the best results in selection and subsequent action. To say that the recent election of so large a council was made solely to "swamp" the A. L. I. is neither effective nor commendable.

There is a place and a work for the A. L. I. and whosoever destroys them is not wise.

**Change**—The recent meeting of the New York library club at which retrospection and forecast in library development were discussed from various viewpoints, ought to be productive of much good. A taking account of territory covered and of lands to be possessed could be indulged in more frequently to the betterment of the work in all its relations.

Changes in methods, scope and ideals were discussed at the New York meeting. That time and necessity make some changes in all these things is inevitable, whether the changes are willingly made or not. Change is the law of life. But change for change's sake is never a desirable thing in serious conduct. And there are not wanting in library development signs of such change and the more deplorable change

that comes from loss of that general grasp of affairs that follows large expansion.

There has crept in here and there a change in methods largely due to lack of knowledge of the development of library service and we find librarians trying one and another method which were tried out in the past and found for various reasons to be unprofitable and which will prove themselves so again at a crucial moment not always comprehended by the inexperienced.

Methods are machinery and are valuable only as they lessen the distance between the reader and the help he should have from the library, not only from the books but from library service. In this latter phase, the method must have consideration as a time-saver for the librarian as well as for the public. Library methods must conserve the time and strength of the library worker, must in fact be labor-saving devices which will free the service from drudgery as far as possible. Short cuts in methods often mistakenly called "simplicity," sometimes result in additional and continuous work for the librarians which ought to be disposed of when first presented, by doing once for all.

On the other hand, library methods often offer temptation to follow to the extreme limit a line of development for which there is little use beyond the satisfaction of the one who is working out the scheme. There is the same danger in the development of the idea of the scope of the library.

The basic principle of the library is the use of books, and all the work of the library should lead directly to that end. It may be pleasurable and profitable to do other things with the library

machinery, but while so doing there is danger that the real reason for the library's being may go abegging to a certain degree.

#### Summer's come!

Now a joy too deep for sound,  
A peace no other season knows,  
Hushes the heavens and wraps the ground,  
The blessings of supreme repose.

This number of PUBLIC LIBRARIES will be the last until October. In the meantime we shall have the meeting of the American library association, of the library department of the N. E. A. and the International Conference of librarians at Brussels.

These meetings ought to bring out something strong and fine in the development of library work, and undoubtedly there will be much to report in the next issue of the magazine. Considerable space is given this month to a discussion of the work of public libraries for those engaged in the arts and crafts. That this is the next phase of library work to receive the emphasis seems undoubtable. Perhaps the interest will swing to another quarter afterward and still to another later on, in time completing the circuit of all interests represented in the great body of the general public.

Each separate class will have its advocates, and it is well that it should, so that we shall have a rounding out of the educational forces of the tax supported library.

In the meantime, vacation days are at hand, and librarians in common with other workers, will be glad to gain new strength and new energy in a rest of mind and body that faithful and hard service of the past year warrants them in taking.

### A Brief for the Library Schools

A young man of education and ability, with some business training, sought the position of librarian of a public library about to be established in a growing town. The appointment was referred to a librarian of experience and reputation, to whom the young man applied. The librarian said:

You should have a knowledge of library science and economy, which your education has not included. I advise you to go to a good library school.

*Young man:* Why to a library school? I have been advised that I could do better by working in a library directly under a successful librarian than I could in a library school. I thought I might find such a chance for the time that lies between now and the opening of my library and so prepare myself. Is there not a considerable library literature, some textbooks and such things, that I can read up?

*Librarian:* You are confronted with the same old question that has been threshed out for almost every calling under the sun. Suppose I ask you first: Why do we have law schools, medical schools, schools of technology, nurses' schools, schools of philanthropy and so on? There are courses in manual training, in domestic science; there are even training classes for ladies' maids and manicures. Why are teachers with normal training preferred to those that do not have it, so that it is almost impossible for a college graduate without the professional training to get a chance to teach? Why, then, are there schools for the training of librarians? Because the old librarians, I mean those of nearly a generation ago, found that the details of their work were becoming so complicated that it took too much time to teach them to every new assistant; and also because they found by association and comparison that much was to be gained by uniformity and coöperation. The conditions evolved specialists, and these are better able to explain the details of their special departments. And now we

profit by the careful and systematic study of the library school faculties and by the training they have given to the hundreds of young men and women that have gone from the schools to active work in the libraries of the country.

*Y. M.:* This is all true, I admit, but still it is possible to get the training by practical experience as it is possible to read law in a lawyer's office instead of in a law school.

*L.:* Of course one can be trained in a library where there is no school, if there is a sufficient force there to give the training. But there are two points to be considered in this question: The standpoint of the library and the standpoint of the individual. From the standpoint of the library, experience has proven that it is too expensive to put untrained helpers on a salary, or even to try to use their work at all without careful supervision. They have to be shown how to do everything; they have to be watched constantly and to have their mistakes corrected. For this reason, large libraries have established apprentice classes, finding it more economical to employ someone to teach them systematically the routine work even of the mere mechanical and clerical sorts than to put the would-be assistants at work without any training at all. This is having a sort of library school within the library. Other libraries prefer to have their assistants trained in the approved schools, after which they can more easily pick up the slightly different methods of the individual library, and to pay them the highest salaries necessary for the trained worker.

*Y. M.:* But is it not true that the practical work of the head librarian and that of his assistants differ materially? While I might admit that my assistants should be carefully trained for the detail work they are to have in charge, it seems to me that the head librarian should be more of an administrator and should not so much need a knowledge of details.

*L.:* That is not the reasoning of bank directors in selecting managers. Consulting engineers are those who know by experience every problem in detail. A



man who has been successful in journalism, or even in education, is not thereby fitted to plan a library building, compile a statistical report or select the first 10,000 books for a new public library. The best administrator of anything is the man who knows the whole structure from the bottom up, the relation of every part to the whole and all the wherefores. I could send you to a library, and I believe it is but an example, where the catalog used, or rather not used, by the public today, is a most insufficient apology for a catalog solely because the librarian who organized and for years administered that library had no appreciation nor knowledge of the making of a good catalog, or at least of the importance of giving his readers one. His head cataloger was self-taught by means of published rules and discussions at meetings. The assistants in that library claim that the public do not use the catalog; they will have nothing to do with it. This is not the case in another library I know with the same kind of a community. The librarian there is a bibliographer and a practical librarian. His head cataloger and many of the assistants on his staff are trained in the various schools. He also gives attention to training such of the lower grade assistants as come from high schools to work for small salaries. The readers in that community make very great use of the public catalog. In the early days of my experience I planned a building. After we were occupying it we kept finding inconveniences due to my lack of knowledge of how departments worked together. I spent much gray matter over problems of the charging system which my assistants seemed unable to solve. When I made a change and found myself called upon to plan another building, I took advice from the state commission. A part of the advice was to take as first assistant a young man from the library school. I found him ready with solutions of the loan desk problems, a practical routine for the order and accessions department which he easily adapted to our needs, a plan for the cataloging and

shelf arrangement of the books which has proved admirable ever since, and in the building plans many valuable suggestions came from him.

*Y. M.:* But do you not think, sir, with your previous experience you would have solved these problems yourself for the second library.

*L.:* Perhaps so, by the further expenditure of gray matter, visits to other libraries and conferences with the state organizer, all of which would be at the expense of the institution, which had a right to receive perfected plans. It is, as I said: the training or the experience is expensive to the library in which it is acquired, and if the schools can give it and the library get the benefit, so much the better for the library. A head librarian without library school training or other experience which gives him ability to weigh and judge between alternative details, may nevertheless sometimes be a successful administrator if he surrounds himself with those who can supply this lack in his own training and in whom he can have confidence. But even then, there will be many problems in his own field in which the personal element and the point of view have weight and which would be better met by himself with the broader outlook which a good school can give him. Besides, how shall the master of a craft keep the respect of his assistants if they all know more than he does? Why should he have the big salary if they can do all his work and do it better?

*Y. M.:* There certainly is something in that, from the standpoint of the library. But how about the individual? You said there were two points.

*L.:* I was just coming to that. It is not only better for the library, but better for the individual, too, if he gets his training in a library school. Opinions to the contrary are based upon seemingly inadequate courses or equipment of the schools, perhaps upon lack of understanding of what the schools do offer, or upon a judgment formed by acquaintance with the least capable graduates. The schools are mostly connected with

large institutions in which the cataloging and bibliographical work is of a scholarly kind. The teachers attempt to give the student a full knowledge of the tools and reference books of his work and they give him practice in details which in many libraries might not be used at all. The theory is that one should get a thorough training in all the branches of the work first and then specialize. This gives a broader view of the whole which is never regretted by those who have it, but which many think beforehand they can do without. A young man like yourself is impatient of details and avoids the schools. If the schools should differentiate on the lines of the position to be held, and give only the special training for those who wish it, would they not be open to the charge of superficiality? Are you not laying yourself liable to such a charge when you seek to slight the groundwork and step at once into a position at the top?

*Y. M.:* But is it not true that the foremost in the library world today are not library school trained?

*L.:* Not so fast, young man. How old is the first library school? How many are there, men and women, who have taken a systematic librarianship course? How many of these had a good education for a background, and how many had ability to organize and administer? Remember that the first years of the schools were experimental and that the administrative courses were hardly planned. The work then was mostly clerical. There were no printed Library of Congress catalog cards and catalogers had to be trained in large numbers. How many are there of the library school graduates who can be fairly compared with the class you wish to represent, those having good education and natural ability, who went into libraries and "picked it up?" Make your lists and then let us see. And, remember, you must examine their work, the results in their communities, see what they have really accomplished, and not judge by what they seem able to accomplish or by what they have done that is not tech-

nical. It is too soon to make fair comparisons like this in general, but you may find a few specific instances. I have in mind a young man who in boyhood was a page in a large library. When he decided to make librarianship his life work, he took a college course, followed it with a two years' library school course and is now reorganizing a large city library and making a mark as a successful librarian. He is best compared with many another who did not do as he did and is not heard of at all. But I do know of one, perhaps a type, of just as much natural ability, who grew up in a more or less haphazard sort of way, not even going to college, but getting a general education by reading, travel business and experience of every sort. He knows a great deal, is ingenious and capable, but his mind lacks training and although he has been in library work for a number of years, he still occupies a subordinate position. He may get on, but it is a slow process.

*Y. M.:* But there are those, comparatively young men, who have begun their library work since the schools were started, and who have gone right into administrative places and seem to have succeeded. They leave the questions of detail to assistants who have studied them and take their advice when occasion arises. I do not see but that I should get on as well, provided I chose my assistants carefully. They should have the library school training and solve the problems of the details. I have a business training and a good knowledge of reference books and of how a library should be used. If I can get a chance for six months in a well-regulated library of the same type, I am sure I can fit myself.

*L.:* That is, you are willing to confess yourself satisfied with a superficial knowledge of the profession you elect to follow. But to begin with, the first duty of the librarian in your town is to give the architects specifications for the building. Are you able to do that at once? That cannot wait six months. Do you know how large a reading room

you want, how many feet of book shelves, whether you want stacks or open shelves, how the different rooms are to open into each other, what rooms you should have, how large and what kind of a loan desk, what provision for local study clubs, museums, etc.? You will know more about all this a year hence than you do now; meantime if you had the chance, you would take advice from the state commission, and if your library didn't suit you, you would have to live in it just the same. Then do you know how to select the books and place the orders to the best advantage, choosing as to editions, bindings, etc.? Can you make your plans for the most advantageous organization of your force and have everything going on so that when the building is completed the library can be ready to open in the shortest possible time? If you must stop first and learn how to do all these things, your opening would be delayed for some time. You see, the training must come first whether you get it in a school or in another library, and if you get it in a school, you save time and get a more thorough, because more carefully prepared, course. And if it would take you two years in a school, how can you hope to get it in six months in a library without teachers? The trustees of this library you have in mind have asked me to aid in the selection of a suitable person, and you see what I think about it. I should not think it advisable to place the organization of a new library in your hands just now.

*Y. M.:* Well, you seem to have a strong case. But one question more. How do salaries compare in the long run? And, also, what chance is there for those who cannot afford the time and expense of a school course? How fast can they advance as compared with those who can and do?

*L.:* Salaries are low throughout the profession. As compared with other professions requiring the same amount and quality of preparation, they are, in the main, disgracefully low. I cannot tell you why this is so. Economists would say that it is because people can be found

to do the work for these same low salaries. I suppose the workers themselves are too much interested in what they are doing and too devoted to accomplishing results to think of organizing a strike. And in far too many cases the directors and behind them the tax-paying public do not realize the meaning of low salaries in quality of service. It is here that the influence of the library schools is to be felt. They are trying to better conditions by encouraging their graduates to refuse small salaries, but the leaven works slowly. It is to the credit of the schools, however, and when their records are more universally observed and appreciated, it may have its effect. As to how the salaries compare, of those who go to the schools and those who do not, it seems to me in the main to the advantage of the schools. I should advise a person, if necessary, to get the school course on borrowed capital. At the end of a given term (perhaps five years is too little, but certainly within ten) the advantage will be realized. And not only in the actual financial compensation, but in appreciation of work and in enjoyment of life. The assistant who starts with the hope of working up, feels her handicap and studies so hard and strains every nerve so tensely to the accomplishment of her ambition that both her work, that is, the library's work, and her health are liable to suffer, and, if she reaches her goal, it is with depleted vitality and the loss of much of the keen enjoyment to which she had a right all the time. Meantime, she probably sees others who have been able to give the time to preparation surpass her in the race, and this is disheartening.

*Y. M.:* This is all true, I can understand. And as for myself, I am sure I would rather be well prepared than to start in and run the risk of making mistakes. Neither do I think I would care to learn my profession from my assistants. I should prefer to teach them, if necessary, and at least be in a position to decide and to command. This position I have been seeking is in my home town and I must face the possibility, if



I go away and give it up, that I may not get it at all. Someone else will step into it before I am prepared. I might not have thought of library work at all if it had not been for this.

*L.*: "Sufficient unto the day." The first question is: Are you choosing library work for your permanent profession? If yes, and that because you believe yourself adapted for it, two years is not too long a preparation for a life work. There is too little time after the real business begins, to catch up with the reading and study which should have come first and which is necessary in order to be a master of your craft.

*Y. M.*: I believe you are right. Both I and the library in question are fortunate in having so wise a counselor. I thank you.

#### A Reference Librarian's Two-foot Shelf

This list does not contain a single title to be found in either Dr Eliot's or Ex-President Roosevelt's lists. It consists merely of a few books which it is found convenient to have right at hand on the telephone table for answering questions over the wire. I have no desire to raise a storm of protest over the selection; the books just naturally came together to fill a real need. We encourage telephone inquiry and do our best to give any reasonable amount of information in this way. The telephones are located on movable arms between the desks of the reference librarian and an assistant, so that there is no delay in turning over of messages.

These books will answer a large majority of the questions which can be conveniently asked and answered over the telephone. To these might be added many others—yearbooks, fact-books, phrase-books, Who's who, but too large a number of titles would defeat the purpose of the telephone shelf.

A one-volume dictionary (according to taste.)

World almanac.

Tribune almanac.

Severance's guide to periodicals.

American newspaper annual.

Willing's press guide.

Kent's mechanical engineer's pocket-book.

Trautwine's civil engineer's pocket-book.

A B C telegraphic code.

A book of quotations.

Holt's encyclopedia of etiquette or any well-indexed book on etiquette.

A receipt book (Henley's Scientific American or Brannt's.)

#### Directory Interchange

As the time approaches for the publication of 1910 city directories it may be of interest to other librarians to know how the Cleveland public library acquires directories without cost. The collection has been made largely through the courtesy of the Cleveland Directory Company, who turn over their previous year's exchanges to us as soon as they receive current numbers. Last year just before the publication of the new Cleveland directory a circular letter was sent to various local business houses requesting them to give us the old copy for which they would soon have no further use. Fifty letters brought in half as many 1908 Cleveland directories which we in turn offered to out-of-town libraries in exchange for their directories. Librarians whom we have approached with this suggestion have welcomed it and we should be glad to further enlarge our exchange list.

As the cost of keeping up an up-to-date file of directories by purchase is prohibitive, we find that this method of acquisition is very satisfactory. Usually a year-old directory of an outside city answers the purpose of the inquirer.

H. S. HIRSHBERG,

Reference librarian.

Cleveland public library.

### Decrease in the Circulation of Books

Most of the reports of the public libraries throughout the country show more or less of a decrease in circulation through one or more departments. A few of the libraries showing such figures were asked what in the librarian's opinion was the cause of the decrease. The following answers were received:

#### Brooklyn public library

The matter was taken up at our staff meeting in April, but no satisfactory conclusion was reached. Business conditions are about the same as they were a year ago and the attendance at the libraries has changed very little. Here are two reasons which may be worth while considering, and are given for what they are worth:

1) Increased interest in moving-picture shows resulting in attracting young people to these exhibitions.

2) As the decrease is more marked in the children's department than in the adult it is possible that in the newer libraries the children have read the books on the shelves and that we have not succeeded in getting in the same number of the younger children to take their places.

These reasons are not very satisfactory, and I have yet to find one reason that will fit the case.

FRANK P. HILL

#### Buffalo public library

We believe that we know of two reasons—both of which we welcome—for the tendency of the circulation to fall off. One was the decrease in number of unemployed, and another a commercial rivalry of small libraries of fiction placed in news and drug stores throughout the city. I think these two reasons apply to many cities.

WALTER L. BROWN, Librarian.

#### Chicago public library

No concern need be felt on account of the decreased circulation uniform-

ly reported by libraries through their annual statistical summaries. It may be questioned whether librarians have not attached too great importance to the sum total of population rather than to the widespread use of libraries in their respective communities. No doubt they have been led to this estimate of usefulness by the popular conception as to the test of a library's successful work. If the libraries can show an increase in the number of readers, whose cards are active, they are meeting the actual test of usefulness better than by means of large circulation figures. Questionable methods can always be utilized in bringing these latter to a total that will impress those who do not stop to analyze their basis. The lower the standard of book selection the ampler will be the total of circulation.

Two principal reasons for the past year's decrease in the recorded use of books may be noted as applicable generally rather than locally.

In years of plenty when prosperity affects the leisure period of people's daily life, naturally time that can be given to reading is more limited than when they have nothing to do and time hangs heavily upon them. In this respect library circulation statistics constitute a fairly good trade barometer. The second and other important cause for the decreased circulation may be attributed to the surprising multiplication of nickel theaters, which number their patrons by the thousands nightly, in every city, and have proportionately large audiences even in the smallest places. Were statistics as to these available, unquestionably the results would be surprising as well as significant. Properly regulated the cheap theater could be made a potent educational agency. Unrestricted it may become a more serious menace in degrading the ideals of young people than the flood of harmful literature which the public libraries are

seeking to countervail through their resources, and their methods for rendering these resources attractive.

HENRY E. LEGLER.

#### Free library of Philadelphia

The slump in circulation of books in free libraries for the year 1909 is not confined to one state or one part of America. The sudden wave of moving-picture shows and other entertainments where young people can go and have two hours' enjoyment for five cents has necessarily produced a temporary loss of circulation, but I think it is not worth much anxious consideration, and probably the pendulum will set in in the other direction just as unexpectedly as has the present loss of circulation.

It seems to me that too much attention is given to the fluctuations in the number of books circulated in free libraries. While such statistics show the growth or declension of the movement, it is by no means the most important feature when considering the value of libraries. The circulation of books for home use may be aptly compared to the foliage of trees and bushes. A rosebush may be luxuriant in foliage; a pear tree may throw out new branches in every direction; but to judge of the value of the rosebush and of the pear tree, you will have to find out what is the supply and character of the flowers on the rosebush and of the fruit on the pear tree.

Libraries are an important factor in the educational movement of a country, but education is not considered as to its growth simply by a study of the record of attendance of children at schools or young men at colleges. The worth of a school or college is decided by ascertaining the proportion of pupils who do more than barely scrape through examinations. The right of libraries to maintenance at the hands of our municipalities and to continue as an educational movement depends on

the amount of use made of books that have to be consulted in libraries but are rarely taken to the homes of the readers.

A better judgment can be formed of the progress of a library by keeping a record of the number of persons who use the library buildings for the purpose of consulting reference and other books not allowed to be circulated than in any other way. If 100,000 books are given out from a building and from two to three hundred thousand are consulted in the building, it is more important to know the latter fact than the former.

There is little doubt that we have begun to recover from a period of general business depression. During times of depression thousands of books are taken out for home use because unfortunately the time for reading is very largely increased among the usual patrons of free libraries. Fluctuations in circulation are no more serious than are fluctuations in business. With prosperous times the circulation of books for home use will necessarily fall off. In hard times books will be taken to the residences of the people for the sake of procuring forgetfulness of troubles and to fill up time.

JOHN THOMPSEN.

#### Carnegie library of Pittsburgh

We think that an increase in the amount of employment will count for at least part of the loss, as we find many men no longer visit us during the day because they are at work. Certain purely local conditions are also tending to decrease the use of this library.

It occurs to me that possibly the increase in library use during the past few years has been greater than should have been expected and that the falling off is more a return to the normal state of affairs than a failure to meet conditions. Drawing its patrons from the employed classes as the public library does, it must

feel the effect of changes in business. During recent years many people have had more leisure time than in the preceding period and have used the library, but this condition is changing to the former one, at least in Pittsburgh. The annual gain in the last few years in this library has been greater than previous experience would have led us to anticipate and, it may be, has been unnaturally large.

HARRISON W. CRAVER,

**St Louis public library**

The whole subject of the increase and decrease in the use of libraries should be specially investigated. It is at present more or less mysterious and probably dependent upon various factors that have not been fully recognized. It is maintained by some persons that a decrease of this kind is dependent on the prosperity of the country as increase in prosperity means more persons employed and fewer who have time to use libraries. I have even heard it maintained by the officer of a bank that library circulations and savings bank deposits always move in the opposite directions, one increasing as the other decreases and vice versa. On this theory, the general decrease in library circulation during the past year would mean greater prosperity throughout the country. I have never been able to see, however, how this cause could affect the circulations of children's rooms and as these have decreased as well as adult circulations this explanation would be inadequate.

ARTHUR E. BOSTWICK.

The libraries are feeling the automobile craze, in whose grip the whole country is at the present time. A large portion of the reading public use the library for the recreation they receive from its books. Just now these people are finding their recreation in the use of the automobile.

LIBRARIAN.

**The New County Library System of California**

Mr Bruncken's exposition of the California county library law in June PUBLIC LIBRARIES is interesting and valuable in its comprehensive outline of that measure, but it does not present clearly the facts as to the manner in which it is being put into operation or the attitude toward it of the librarians of the state. So far, the law as a whole has not been put into operation; what has happened has been the acceptance by a number of libraries of a single clause (section 12) which provides for the establishment of county libraries under a method distinct from the scheme of the law as a whole. According to this clause a public library may enter into a contract with the county supervisors to perform the functions of a county library, in return for which it receives an appropriation from the county funds under certain obligations to report upon its work. It is under this "contract clause," as it is called, that the libraries now operating as county libraries are acting; acceptance or approval of the law as a whole by the librarians of the state is quite unlikely, and their attitude toward it is evident in the resolution passed at the recent meeting of the California library association at Long Beach, which urges the amendment of the law, adding, "we believe that this can and should be done without interfering in any way with libraries already established and maintained as a matter of local pride and self-government."

This California library law as a whole is probably the most radical piece of library legislation ever enacted. It is difficult to realize its full bearing from a cursory reading, and it was not until it had been carefully studied and its effects logically considered that its ultimate consequences were clear. When it was understood, any possibility of putting

it into general operation was at an end, and the "contract clause" alone was accepted as a working basis for the much-needed extension of library privileges to residents of districts remote from library facilities. A summary of the objections to the law has already been given in the library press (*Library Journal*, January, 1910), and it is unnecessary now to go into the matter in detail. But it may be pointed out that in its present form the law if applied to existing public libraries would make them simply branches of a central county system, under the management and authority of the county library alone, with no local control or representation in the management, and with the eventual transfer of ownership of all library property to the county system. The lodging of chief library authority with the county supervisors, despite some qualifying restrictions, is regarded also as most dangerous—county supervisors being, as a rule, more noted for political affiliations and activities than for the administration of educational institutions. The whole subject of this law is an involved one—the more so as its supporters can assert that it is in successful operation, though this statement is true only in so far as it refers to the "contract clause," but is not true as regards the law as a whole.

Some means of extension of library facilities to all the inhabitants of the state has been needed in California, as in other states. The present law can never as it stands be accepted as a satisfactory means to that end. Probably the "contract clause" offers the solution of the difficulty and the method there indicated could be amplified and adapted to form a successful county library law. If this can be done, the repeal of the present law and the automatic substitution for it of a simple and definite act dealing solely with the extension of

library privileges to county residents, would be more satisfactory than any attempt to amend the existing measure.

HELEN E. HAINES.

### A Congressman's Estimate of the Public Library

In an address before the United States house of representatives, Hon. William Sulzer of New York, speaking in favor of the increased appropriations for the Public library of the District of Columbia, spoke very forcefully in favor of the spread of free public libraries throughout the country. His remarks were heartily applauded several times. Mr Sulzer concluded his address as follows:

Mr Chairman, I am in favor of these public libraries. They do a great deal of good. Their establishment should be encouraged. They help the parents and the children. This library will help the boys and girls. It will aid the men and the women who want to improve themselves by reading and studying along the various lines of their endeavors. I know of no agency in America save our public schools that is doing so much good for our citizenship; so much for the general weal; and so much for the perpetuity of our democratic institutions as the free libraries. Their facility for free education is the greatest blessing vouchsafed to America and the surest guaranty for the safety of our freedom. Instead of being criticized, Andrew Carnegie should be commended for all that he has done and is doing for the free libraries of America.

We ought to favor whenever and wherever we can the building and the maintenance of these free libraries for all the people, where every boy and every girl and every man and every woman can go, get a book, and study. There is no way in which so much good can be accomplished, no way in which the people of the country can be benefited so much; no way in which to induce a desire to study and a love for great books; and to maintain a proper respect for the sanctity of home and for law and order among the people as through the good books the people get and read from these free circulating libraries. I think their establishment by law is wise legislation; the money for their maintenance well expended; and all for the benefit of the masses, and destined beyond doubt to promote the general welfare. All honor and all praise to Andrew Carnegie; and all success and all prosperity to the free circulating libraries he is establishing in America. [Applause.]



### The Park, the Museum and the Library

The Louisville Free public library has in its museum a very large and fine collection of Kentucky bird skins. Recently by arrangement with the library the Board of Park Commissioners had 225 of these birds mounted and placed in glass cases in Central Park in the heart of one of the chief residence sections. The cases are placed in the most public part of the handsome new field house, where people are passing or waiting at all hours of the day and evening.

The birds are gracefully mounted and below each is a large label giving the scientific and the common name of the bird, the time when it makes its appearance in the park, and from one to four references to books in the public library where a picture and a description of the bird may be found. The references are chiefly to

Coues, Key to North American birds.

Doubleday, Bird neighbors.

Nuttall, Popular handbook of birds.

Wright, Birdcraft.

The exhibit in the park is immensely popular, while the library has had to place the books referred to in the reference room, where they are in great demand.

For practical purposes even in education a bird in the case is worth two in the bush. But the method here outlined combines all of the means for conveying a clear and correct impression namely by presenting first the bird alive in its native haunts, second the mounted specimen, third the picture, and fourth the written description of the bird. It is eminently fitting that it should first be put into operation in the metropolis of Kentucky, for fifteen years the home state of the famous Audubon.

WM. F. YUST.

June 15, 1910.

### Mackinac

"Not only was Mackinac the birth-place of Hiawatha: it was the home of God himself—Gitchi Manitou, or Mitchi Manitou—who placed there an Indian Adam and Eve to watch and cultivate his gardens. He also made the beaver, that his children might eat, and they acknowledged his goodness in oblations. Bounteous sacrifices insured entrance after death to the happy hunting-grounds beyond the Rocky Mountains. Those who had failed in these offerings were compelled to wander about the Great Lakes, shelterless, and watched by unsleeping giants who were 10 times the stature of mortals.

"These giants still exist, but in the form of conical rocks, one of which—called Sugar-Loaf, or Manitou's Wigwam—is 90 feet high. A cave in this obelisk is pointed out as Manitou's abiding-place, and it was believed that every other spire in the group had its wraith, whence has come the name of the island—Michilimackinack (place of great dancing spirits). Arch Rock is the place that Manitou built to reach his home from Sunrise Land the better.

"Deep beneath Mackinac was a stately and beautiful cavern hall where spirits had their revels. An Indian who got leave to quit his body saw it in company with one of the spirits, and spread glowing reports of its beauties when he had clothed himself in flesh again. When Adam and Eve died they, too, became spirits and continued to watch the home of Manitou.

"Now, there is another version of this tradition which gives the original name of the island as Moschenemac-enung, meaning "great turtle." The French missionaries and traders, finding the word something too large a mouthful, softened it to Michillimackinack, and, when the English came, three syllables served them as well as a hundred, so Mackinac it is to

this day. Manitou, having made a turtle from a drop of his own sweat, sent it to the bottom of Lake Huron, whence it brought a mouthful of mud, and from this Mackinac was created. As a reward for his service the turtle was allowed to sleep there in the sun forever.

"Yet another version has it that the Great Spirit plucked a sand-grain from the primeval ocean, set it floating on those waters, and tended it until it grew so large that a young wolf, running constantly, died of old age before reaching its limits. The sand became the earth. Prophecy has warned the Winnebagoes that Manibozho (Michabo or Hiawatha) shall smite by pestilence at the end of their thirteenth generation. Ten are gone. All shall perish but one pure pair, who will people the recreated world. Manibozho, or Minnebojou, is called a "culture myth," but the Indians have faith in him. They say that he lies asleep on the north shore of Lake Superior, beneath the "hill of four knobs," known as the Sleeping Giant. There offerings are made to him, and it was a hope of his speedy rising that started the Messiah craze in the West in 1890."

The above digest of Mackinac Indian legends is taken from Skinner's "Myths and legends of our own land" and they may be of interest to the readers of PUBLIC LIBRARIES who are planning to attend the A. L. A. conference.

CHAS. E. RUSH.

Jackson, Mich.

#### Interesting Things in Print

The Public library of Seattle has issued a list of books for teachers, a descriptive list of books on the Pacific Northwest and suggested lines of study, and a pocket size folder containing information for borrowers in the Seattle public library.

The Worcester (Mass.) public library has issued a selected list on

children's games in its bulletin for April. The list is intended primarily for teachers, and includes games for the school, home and gymnasium, singing games, folk dances and amusements.

The League of the library commissions has issued a special edition of the buying list of books for small libraries, compiled by Zaidee Brown of the New York education department. Another reprint is the article on Publicity by Jeannette M. Drake of the Wisconsin library commission.

Bulletin No. 9 of the Free library of Philadelphia, is the supplement to the list of serials in the library of Philadelphia and its vicinity. This is a supplement to the union list prepared some time ago, Bulletin No. 8. It is estimated that there are nearly 1000 additions in the supplement and that the total number of periodicals recorded reaches nearly 15,000.

One of the interesting products of the organization of the Studebaker company, South Bend, Ind., is the *Library Bulletin*, covering the material accessible in their library, with an index to the principal magazines. It is published weekly to carry to the members of the Studebaker business the latest and best information on the manufacturing and marketing of technical material.

The Public library of Worcester, Mass., has reprinted some parts of its last bulletin with the idea of increasing the circulation of non-fiction. The leaflets are placed in the books of fiction after the latter have been charged to the borrowers, with the heading left conspicuously extended beyond the edge of the volume with the hope that it will lead fiction readers to take out some of the books referred to.

The Wisconsin free library commission has issued the first quarterly number of "Current events index," a guide to material in the daily press. Inasmuch as the State commission

is the publisher of the index, it may be confidently expected that financial disaster will not overtake it, as was the result in the case of the Streets' Pandex of the news.

A most interesting pamphlet is the seventh bulletin of the Southwest society of the Archæological institute of America. It contains in detail the deed of conveyance executed by Charles F. Lummis in presenting his historical, scientific and philological library collection, together with his collection of artifacts from Mexico, Guatemala, Ecuador, Peru and the native tribes of the Southwest. The gift was made in celebration of his fifty-first birthday, March 1.

The pamphlet is illustrated with pictures of many of the curious articles in pottery and weaving and other objects in the collection. Mr Lummis' peculiar style and expression are in keeping with the gift, being as unique in every way as the collection.

In his handbook on Commercial bookbinding, Geo. A. Stephen of the St Pancras public libraries (England) gives a full description of the different machines used in connection with the various processes. Numerous illustrations serve to make plain what might otherwise be an accurate but not wholly clear account. The main topics comprise Pamphlets and Edition bindings. Useful appendices give in full the American library association's binding specifications, and the United States' specifications for book cloth. The chapters dealing with edition binding give minute particulars with reference to the twenty consecutive processes, including folding, binding, end-papering, gathering, collating, sewing, smashing, gluing-up, lining, casing-in, and all the other steps necessary from the initial one to the completion of the product.

The Library of Congress has still available for distribution a few copies

of the following publication,—“A List of maps of America in the Library of Congress; preceded by a list of works relating to cartography, 1901,” which may be had upon request by libraries which could put them to good use.

The preface to the fifth and revised edition of Dana's Library Primer tells us that he has brought the lists of books, magazines, etc., down to date, and has modified the text as changes in books and methods since 1897 have made it necessary.

The book has been reset and is printed on somewhat better paper than were former editions. It ought to continue to be useful to the people for whom it was originally designed,—those who are beginning work in libraries, or have to do with the organization and management of small libraries.

Mr Dana reports that when he was asked to revise this book, he was inclined to think that the only way to revise it was to rewrite it entirely. A careful examination of its several chapters convinced him, however, that there was very little in it that does not apply to library work as well to-day as it did 10 years ago, when first published. His original preface says that the first draft of this book was based on the well-known article of Dr Poole that was published in 1876 by the U. S. Bureau of Education. If one takes the trouble to go back to that famous library compilation of 1876 and read his article, he will be surprised to find how modern it is and how helpful to beginners today.

The Primer was designed to cover somewhat more thoroughly the field covered by Dr Poole. The statements in it are brief, usually very much to the point, and cover a large part of what library periodicals are publishing in different forms today.

It should continue to be as useful to beginners in library work as it has been heretofore.

L.



### A. L. A. Program

A general outline of the program of the A. L. A. meeting at Mackinac was given in the June PUBLIC LIBRARIES. Since then the program has been pretty well developed and the following additional points are noted:

President's address, Anathema upon finger posts.

Story of Michigan, H. Pattingill, Michigan, Michigan songs.

Selection of technical books and periodicals, Harwood Frost, *Engineering News*.

Rational recreation, Dr Victor C. Vaughan, University of Michigan.

Playgrounds and recreation, Graham Romeyn Taylor, *The Survey*.

Reading tents, Rev. Alfred Fitzpatrick, Toronto.

A series of old Canadian folk songs, Henri Le Febvre, Ottawa.

Amedee Tremblay, accompanist.

Key, Century of the child, Mrs H. L. Elmen-dorf.

Lindsay, The beast, A. E. Bostwick.

Spargo, The bitter cry of the children, Linda A. Eastman.

Addams, The spirit of youth and the city streets, Henry E. Legler.

Bosher, Mary Cary, Lutie E. Stearns.

Reeder, How two hundred children live and learn, Caroline Webster.

Riis, The peril and preservation of the home, Esther Straus.

Dean Judd of the School of education, University of Chicago, will represent the N. E. A. at Mackinac.

### Book symposiums

At the A. L. A. meeting at Mackinac, July 2, second general session, a book symposium will be held under direction of J. I. Wyer, jr, which will follow the line of books that seem to show forth recent interpretation of American life.

The following divisions and scope will be given:

#### Fact

Van Dyke—Spirit of America.

Croly—Promise of American life.

Carl B. Roden, Chicago public library (10 minutes).

Brooks—As others see us.

Mrs J. S. Harron, A. L. A. Booklist (5 minutes).

#### Fiction

White—A certain rich man.

Ethel F. McCollough, Superior (Wis.) public library (5 minutes).

Churchill—A modern chronicle.

Elva L. Bascom, A. L. A. Booklist (5 minutes).

Immigration and assimilation of foreign peoples

Connor—The foreigner.

Coolidge—Chinese immigration.

Faust—German element in the United States.

Holt—Life stories of undistinguished Americans.

Steiner—The immigrant tide.

Zangwill—The melting pot.

Arthur E. Bostwick, St Louis public library (20 minutes).

#### Biography

Thompson—Shelley.

Mrs H. L. Elmen-dorf, Buffalo public library (5 minutes).

Stanley—Autobiography.

Mary E. Ahern, PUBLIC LIBRARIES (5 minutes).

#### Travel

Loti—Egypt.

Theresa Hitchler, Brooklyn public library (5 minutes).

Shackleton—The heart of the Antarctic.

Reuben Gold Thwaites, Wisconsin historical society (5 minutes).

#### Fiction

Bacon—Margarita's soul.

Agnes Van Valkenburg, Milwaukee public library (5 minutes).

De Morgan—It never can happen again.

—An affair of dishonor.

The Chairman (5 minutes).

Reading and reviewing from the inside.

Wallace Rice, Chicago.

The session of the children's librarians also will be devoted to a discussion of books for children.

### U. S. librarians on Brussels program

The program of the International congress of librarians at Brussels, during the last week in August, provides the following of interest to American librarians:

"Government publications," Adelaide R. Hasse, New York City; "Library appointments and pensions," George F. Bowerman, Washington City; "Cataloging," J. C. M. Hanson, Library of Congress; "Education of library assistants," J. I. Wyer, jr, New York State library; "Copyright," Thorward Solberg, Library of Congress; "International exchanges," Paul Brockett; "Work for and with the blind," Emma R. Neisser, Philadelphia; illustrated lecture on "Library buildings."

### New Zealand Library Meeting

The first conference of representatives of public libraries of New Zealand was held at Dunedin, March 26. Dunedin, Wellington, Auckland and Turanganui were represented by nearly 40 persons, members of library boards, city councils and librarians. The visitors were kindly welcomed by the mayor of Dunedin and response was made in behalf of the meeting by T. W. Leys of Leys institute, Auckland.

Mr Leys acknowledged the welcome and dwelt on the future of public libraries in New Zealand. He argued for a greater appreciation of their importance by those in authority. The work of the conference should be to get the government to understand and appreciate the value of public libraries as parts of the system of national education.

R. Gilkison of the Dunedin city council was chosen chairman of the conference. The chairman, in opening the meeting, said the formation of an association would be a strong bond of union among those having like objects in different towns, and would lead to the development of a clear body of national opinions in matters that would greatly assist all present and future public libraries in New Zealand. He referred to the progress made by the Dunedin library, on which the city expends about 2000 pounds a year. In the last year some 1800 books have been presented to the Dunedin library, and another gift was proposed of over 300 well-selected volumes. The day has gone by when the library was considered outside the function of a municipality. Wellington spends 4000 pounds per annum on its library. He enumerated several gifts to the New Zealand libraries and urged the state of New Zealand to take a more active interest in public libraries than it was doing. In Melbourne and Sydney the libraries are paid for by

the state government. In New Zealand even the small subsidy which was paid mainly to the smaller libraries was stopped last year. He urged a resolution from the conference, petitioning Parliament to recognize its responsibilities in the direction of looking after the general provision for these most necessary means of education. At the close of the chairman's address a resolution was adopted, after some discussion, to form a permanent association to be called the Libraries association of New Zealand.

Chief Librarian Wilson of the Parliamentary library read a paper on the "Selection and purchase of books for public libraries." He held that in this matter the librarian should be allowed every latitude and freedom and should have personal responsibility and personal authority. He touched on the important questions of binding, buying secondhand books and the like. The Parliament library contains 75,000 bound publications and the yearly increase varies from 2,800 to 3,600 v. After some matters of business, the meeting adjourned until Monday.

The first paper taken up on Monday morning was "Library hygiene." Librarian Baillie of Wellington made a report on "Book disinfection." He submitted details of methods of fumigation and reached the conclusion that it was not necessary to fumigate books every day. Mr Shaw of Auckland said he had handled books for 40 years and some of them had borne the dust of centuries. He handled thousands of secondhand books in all stages and had never been any worse for doing so. Most sellers of secondhand books live to a green old age. He had never heard of any public librarian or secondhand bookseller suffering from a disease as a result of handling books.

Mr Cohen read a paper on "Traveling libraries and their management."

The plan had been in successful operation for more than 25 years and needed no special illustrating, as the United States and Australia had been the most successful in this particular kind of work. He wished to emphasize the educational benefit derived in remote areas of countries through such libraries, while he deplored the withdrawal of the government aid to the work. No more fatal mistake had ever been perpetrated than the cutting off of this appropriation. If the Government were to practice economy in the true sense of the word, there were a hundred different ways of doing it. For the person who went into the wilderness to make a home, it was the duty of the Government to do more than was done for the dwellers in the cities. In conclusion, he moved that it was desirable to inaugurate a system of traveling libraries in this dominion and that the question be brought to the notice of the Government with the request that practical effect be given to the resolution as early as possible. He moved further that the conference urge the concession to libraries controlled by the local government bodies, of the right to forward parcels of books to and within countries at the New South Wales or similar rates. The motion was carried unanimously.

"The value of juvenile libraries" was presented by T. W. Leys of Auckland. The value of lectures and literary societies working in conjunction with libraries was approved. An interesting paper on the "Dewey system of classification and its adaptation to New Zealand requirements" was presented by H. L. James, assistant parliamentary librarian.

T. W. Leys dealt with the importance of municipal authorities in establishing branch libraries in conjunction with the central library. Other topics that were discussed were "Library rates," and "State aid to

public libraries." A motion was carried that some provision should be made by library authorities to enable the free issue of books other than fiction from the lending department. After some discussion the motion was carried.

The election of officers resulted as follows: President, T. W. Leys of Auckland; vice-president, R. Gilkison, Dunedin; J. Craigie, M.P., Timaru; D. McLaren, M.P., Wellington; secretary and treasurer, R. W. Richards.

Complimentary votes of thanks were tendered for the courtesies offered on occasion of the meeting. The next conference was set for Easter-tide, 1911. Thereafter the association shall be held bi-annually.

#### **Pacific Northwest Library Association Portland meeting**

The second annual meeting of the Pacific Northwest library association was held in Portland, June 1-3. The association is made up of librarians of Washington, Oregon, British Columbia, Montana, Idaho and Utah. In these states, large libraries are few and the attendance was chiefly from the small libraries of Oregon and Washington.

The meeting opened on the evening of June 1, with J. T. Jennings of the Seattle public library in the chair. Richard Ward Montague, trustee of the Portland library, gave a delightful address of welcome, in which he spoke of the fine work a library can do and the high ideals it should have. Dr A. E. Bostwick of the St Louis public library and official delegate from the A. L. A. delivered an address on "The companionship of books." The paper was received with much enthusiasm and awakened interest not only at the convention but among Portland people that made up a large part of the audience.

The meeting on Thursday morning was largely technical. "Bookbinding for

libraries" was emphasized, special stress being laid on the need of thorough hand sewing for rebound books, which when properly bound should be fit for issuing 100 times. Miss Gracie of the Seattle public library, discussing book-buying, warned against the subscription books and edition de luxe books, both of which are too expensive for public libraries. She advised the buyers to find a good dealer and deal directly with him. Auction catalogs and remainder sales are attractive for good bargains when coupled with experience and wide judgment. Miss Wallace of Seattle compared "The Browne and the Newark charging systems" and brought out a discussion particularly valuable for the small libraries of the Northwest. Descriptions were given of the changes from the Browne to the Newark system in the Portland, Seattle and Tacoma libraries. A question box opened by Miss MacPherson of Hoquiam public library brought on an interesting discussion. Question as to whether the L. C. card numbers should be inserted in the new U. S. catalog, led to a most interesting discussion and a motion was unanimously adopted that it was the sense of the meeting that these numbers should be inserted if practicable.

Thursday afternoon, those attending the meeting were the guests of the Portland library in an enjoyable motor-car ride up the Columbia river.

At the meeting of Thursday evening, reports from the various states were presented. Mr. Scholefield of Victoria told how public library work was slowly developing in British Columbia. A trained worker has been added to the staff of the Victoria public library. Traveling libraries in charge of the Legislative library of the Province have been increased in number and reach remote districts as far as 700 miles from the capital. There is a movement for a library act in British Columbia. Eleven new

members of the P. N. L. A. were reported from British Columbia.

State Librarian Hitt of Washington reported growth all over the state, particularly in the smaller cities around the Sound. Ten Carnegie buildings have been erected and several other libraries started in small quarters. Improved administration in the older and larger libraries is clearly visible.

Ruth M. Wright reported for Oregon. Oregon is a particularly difficult state for library work, as a large part of it is thinly settled, if at all. It is almost impossible to send even traveling libraries to central and eastern Oregon, as transportation is so poor. There are now in Oregon 17 libraries supported by taxation; five public libraries supported by association; seven subscription libraries; 17 school and college libraries; seven state libraries; seven library buildings and 20 trained librarians.

Librarian Henry of the University of Washington reported on the proposed library commission law for the state of Washington. In September, 1909, the Governor of Washington appointed an advisory board to the present commission, which consists of the governor, the justices of the Supreme court and the attorney-general. The advisory board consisted of Mr Henry, Mr Hopper of Tacoma, Senator Bassett, Mrs Holmes of Seattle, a representative of the State Federation of Women's clubs, and Mr Dewey, state superintendent of public instruction, with State Librarian Hitt. The advisory board met with the present committee and were instructed by them to prepare a new library commission law for submission to the legislature of 1910-1911. The proposed law was printed and distributed at the meeting and was freely discussed. It is hoped through the law to unify the commission, state library, traveling libraries and state organizer.

On Friday morning, two sessions were held; one on "Children's work,"

in charge of Miss Millard of Portland, and the other on "College and reference work," in charge of M. H. Douglass of the University of Oregon. The subject at the college section was "Best methods of familiarizing college students with the use of the library." Mrs Ida A. Kidder of the Oregon state agricultural college discussed the topic "How to increase the culture reading of college students." C. W. Smith of the University library gave a suggestive description of his method of preserving clippings and small pamphlets in vertical files. Miss Meissner of the University library presented "A charging system for a university library."

The section on children's work, in charge of Miss Millard, was one of the strongest sessions of the convention. All the papers were unusually interesting and thoroughly discussed. Miss Moser of Baker City read the first paper on "Work with children in a small library." The subject was discussed by Miss Rode of Portland; "Vacation reading and playgrounds" by Miss Bailey of Portland, discussed by Miss Pritchard. The last paper, "Children's reading from a mother's standpoint" was presented by Mrs W. G. Eliot, jr. It was delightful and held the attention of everyone. Mrs Eliot is the wife of a well-known Portland clergyman. The discussion was led by Miss Wallace of Seattle.

In the last session of the meeting, Mr Henry outlined the project for a library school at the University of Washington. He said it would be impossible to begin in 1910. The plan was already formed to open in the fall of 1911, with a course extending through two college years. Junior standing will be required to enter the library class, the work of which will count as credit toward a degree.

Mr Scholefield made a strong plea for the next meeting of the A. L. A. to be held in Victoria. A resolution was enthusiastically adopted that the P. N. L. A. second the invitation from

the leading officers of the Province of British Columbia, and from the official and commercial bodies of Victoria, which will be presented at Mackinac.

Resolutions of thanks for the courtesy received, and supporting the proposed bill for a Washington library commission were adopted.

The following officers were elected: President, Mary F. Isom, Portland; first vice-president, E. O. S. Scholefield, Victoria; second vice-president, Susan M. Moser, Baker City; secretary, Charlotte E. Wallace, Seattle; treasurer, M. H. Douglass, Eugene.

#### Library Conference at N. F. W. C.

The library conference held at the meeting of the National federation of women's clubs, Cincinnati, in May, was an interesting session. The meeting was presided over by Mrs May Alden Ward. By invitation, President Hodges of the A. L. A. gave a résumé of the aim and scope of that association.

Miss E. R. Collins of Cincinnati presented a strong, rational plea for better coöperation between club women and public libraries. She advised a voluntary contribution of money, books and lectures from the clubs to the libraries. She pointed out that there might be Colonel Andersons among the club women. Colonel Anderson opened a library in Allegheny when Mr Carnegie was a poor boy and started the impulse which has caused Mr Carnegie to do so much for libraries. The home library among tenement children offers an unlimited field of coöperation in conjunction with the children's department of public libraries. If each member of a club in the United States gave 10 cents to be used by the missionary, the book, to go among the far-off mountain districts or the city children in tenement houses, the result would be tremendous. Each club could send one lecturer to give a



talk to the people in the auditoriums of the library, talks on civic homes supported by the city. Many club women are working without a knowledge of conditions but with a very willing heart. A club woman gave a picture to a little girl in one of the poor parts of the city, telling her to pin it on the wall. "Ain't got no wall," was the reply. "No wall?" asked the lady, in astonishment. "No," was the reply. "We live in the middle of the room, the other four families live in the corners."

Miss Collins pointed out and discussed 12 different lines along which librarians are helpful to club women, and then gave in detail a dozen lines along which the club women could be helpful to the libraries.

An account of the Kansas library commission followed, in which the work of the traveling libraries was explained. Miss Downey, library organizer of Ohio, spoke briefly of the Ohio library commission and the work it was doing for the small libraries of the state.

### The New England Library Conference

The library association of Connecticut, of Massachusetts, New Hampshire and Rhode Island were each responsible for a session of the library conference held at Princeton, Mass., June 9-10. The meeting was held under the auspices of the Massachusetts library club and its president, Mr. Ayer of Cambridge, presided at the opening meeting. Officers for the year were elected as follows: President, Robert K. Shaw, Worcester; vice-presidents, Charles F. D. Belden, Boston, Frederick A. Chase, Lowell, Frank H. Whitmore, Brockton; secretary, Drew B. Hall, Fairhaven; treasurer, Etta L. Rabardy, Boston; recorder, Louise Prouty, Boston.

A committee had been appointed at a previous meeting to prepare resolutions on the death of Mary E.

Sargent of the Medford public library. Miss Chandler of Lancaster read the report, which spoke in the highest terms of Miss Sargent's contribution to library development, not only in Medford but throughout the country. The memorial closed as follows:

We give our highest admiration to the excellence of her professional work, and the noble instinct which made her a leading spirit in many public ways, but beyond all this we feel the loss of a sweet and loving soul, always young, hopeful and cheering, believing in all good, faithful in her duty, faithful in her friendships, to be mourned and regretted as long as memory endures.

Winston Churchill was to have given an address, but he could not be present. Miss Garland, president of the New Hampshire library club, brought the greetings and best wishes of the New Hampshire members. Prof. D. L. Sharp of the Boston university gave an address on "Nature writers." This will appear later in *Atlantic Monthly*.

At the meeting on Friday morning, Walter B. Briggs of Trinity college read a most delightful paper on "America's 'open door' to the democracy of books." An examination of the inventories of the seventeenth century in the courts of New England shows an utter absence of books and book-learning. The Bible and the Psalm book appear to have been the only books available. The eighteenth century saw only about a dozen libraries established outside of the colleges. The immigrant of today finds 55,000,000 v. in 2298 libraries. That these are used by newly arrived citizens may be learned from the reports of the libraries in our large cities. An interesting illustration is that of the Brownsville branch of the Brooklyn public library. Here in a Russian Jewish community of 90,000 people, there was a circulation of 390,338 v. during the year 1909, while the collection of books in the branch was 22,396 v. This "open

door" will have a large part in planting the best traditions of our country in these new people.

Miss Hewins of Hartford gave a delightful account of the books she read and loved when a child, illustrating her paper by exhibiting many of the books. "Booksellers and their traditions" was discussed by F. W. Jenkins of Charles Scribner's Sons. A round table discussed practical questions, particularly the need of greater knowledge of, and interest in, libraries on the part of library trustees.

At the Rhode Island session, Rev. G. G. Atkins of Providence delivered an address on "Nature and her interpreters," covering the writers in science, art, literature and theology.

The report of the trustees of the Public library of Medford, Mass., opens with a tribute to the late librarian, as follows:

First of all they wish to put on record their sense of the value of the services of our late librarian, Mary E. Sargent, who died in Medford, Dec. 20, 1909. The library in its present efficiency is due to her wide and thorough intelligence and culture and power of organization. She found it in all its characteristics a country library, and she has left it with a reputation for excellence among the best libraries of the commonwealth. The book room free to the public, the children's room, one of the earliest in the state, the work with the public schools, the valuable reference library, besides other special features of the library, evince her wisdom in the direction of its affairs. During the eighteen years of her service the trustees have worked with her in cordial agreement, and their sole regret has been that the appropriation has never been sufficient to accomplish all that her fertile mind suggested.

The larger place the library has filled owes much to her personality which made her beloved by all who came into relations with her. Her genial and kindly manner was the reflection of her heart. She took a deep interest in all the persons she so cheerfully served and would spare herself no thought or labor for them. Children were especially dear to her, and for them she could never accomplish all she wished. She has left an enduring memory of herself as one of the most friendly and helpful influences of good our community has known.

### Library Meetings

**District of Columbia**—The April meeting of the Library association was held April 20, and partook of the nature of a round table. The topic for the evening was "The telephone in library work, its use and abuse." Miss Adsit of the Washington public library led the discussion, and called attention to the policy of that library of encouraging greater outside use of the telephone, which is at present mostly used by the schools, clubs and newspapers of that city. The calls are usually questions about pronunciations, current topics, verification of dates, books for debate, etc. Books cannot be renewed over the telephone, however. Miss Besselievre of the Library of Congress described the blanks used in the reading room on which are recorded the time of the call, name of the one receiving it, and when and by whom it is answered. A general discussion of the question followed in which most of those present took part.

MILTENBERGER N. SMULL, Sec'y.

**Kansas**—The Library club of Kansas enjoyed its third annual meeting at Salina public library, which was a very interesting, instructive and highly satisfactory meeting. Reports of progress from the different libraries represented were given. Letters from members who were unable to attend the meeting were read. Miss Glenn, formerly of the Junction City public library, but now an assistant in the Cleveland public library, sent an interesting letter concerning her work among the Bohemians in one of the branch libraries of Cleveland.

Mrs. Delia E. Brown was elected president and Ada E. Hendry, of the McPherson public library, secretary and treasurer for the ensuing year.

**Massachusetts**—The Bay Path library club held its annual meeting in Auburn on June 3. After a short business session the program was left in

charge of Miss Higgins, head of the children's department of the Public library, Worcester, who gave a very interesting and practical paper on "Purposes of story telling in public libraries," pointing out that story telling is one method of inspiring reading of the right sort—a means to an end.

Miss Wilson illustrated the paper by telling three stories, to which the audience listened most attentively.

After a discussion, lunch was served and time was given to visit the library, which is housed in the town hall at present, but the announcement was made of a gift for a new library building.

The afternoon session opened with an informal address on "Play as a trainer for citizenship," by Thomas Curley of the Massachusetts civic league. The speaker pointed out that organized and supervised play is as necessary in the country as in the city and that the team spirit and loyalty which it develops are fundamental to our American democracy.

The following officers were elected for 1910-11: President, Robert K. Shaw, Public library, Worcester; honorary vice-president, M. Anna Tarbell, Public library, Brimfield; vice-presidents, Mrs Clara A. Fuller, Public library, Oxford; Phoebe A. Johnson, Public library, Leicester; secretary, Emily M. Haynes, Polytechnic institute, Worcester; treasurer, Mrs Grace M. Whittemore, Public library, Hudson.

**New York**—The annual meeting of the New York library club was held May 13, 1910. The chief business was the election of officers for the ensuing year. The nominees of the council, E. H. Anderson, for president, Mrs A. B. Maltby, for vice-president, Susan A. Hutchinson, for secretary, and A. A. Clarke, for treasurer, were unanimously elected by the club.

Four members of the council were

elected by ballot from the eight nominees submitted by the council. The members elected were Dr J. S. Billings, Miss J. Y. Middleton, Miss J. A. Rathbone and Caroline G. Thorne.

Commemorative of the twenty-fifth anniversary of the club's founding, the program consisted of four short papers, under the heading, A twenty-five years' retrospect, and four papers on A twenty-five years' forecast. The retrospect included reports on changes in statistics, by Miss Rathbone, Changes in methods by Miss Hitchler, Changes in scope by Miss Prescott, and Changes in ideals by Richard R. Bowker. It was shown by the first paper that the number of libraries of over 1000 v. had increased 89 per cent since 1885; that the number of volumes in the libraries of the country had increased 215 per cent, and that the circulation of the libraries had increased 275 per cent. In the paper of "Changes in methods" it was shown that there had been a very great advance toward simplicity and freedom in methods. In that on "Scope" it was shown that library work had expanded in the 25 years to include work with children, state commission work and traveling and home library work; that library schools and training classes had been established, that there had been a great increase in the privileges extended the borrowers of the libraries. The ideal was held out that the libraries of the country should form a unified national force so that every reader in the country can feel that every book of every library is available for his service.

The twenty-five years' forecast consisted of talks by W. Dawson Johnston on Libraries and schools, by Miss Plummer on Library training, by Frank P. Hill on Special libraries and consulting staffs, and by Edward F. Stevens on Possible new fields or extensions of library work. Among the forecasts were expressed the

hope of more instruction in the use of reference books and library methods in the secondary schools, of greater centralizing and organizing of the material for research work, including union catalogs and a messenger service for inter-library loan systems. Suggestions were also made that the public libraries should collect and distribute material on practice of medicine, and the sociological and economic conditions of health, that there should be a library publishing house which should publish books for public libraries that should be standard in matter, print, paper, binding, etc. A loftier appreciation of the profession was looked for making possible trained workers with adequate salaries in every department of library service. Miss Plummer suggested that a solution of the problem of special training for the librarian of law, medical, educational, technical, and other special libraries lay in the establishment of library schools in connection with the universities, so that the library student wishing to prepare for special lines of work can receive the special training necessary.

JOSEPHINE A. RATHBONE,  
Ex-secretary.

\* \* \* \*

A library institute was held in May in Buffalo by the librarians of western New York. Walter L. Brown, librarian of Buffalo public library, presided. At the morning session, papers were read, and in the afternoon, various topics were discussed. Mrs. H. L. Elmendorf of Buffalo talked of "Librarians' reading." She said librarians should not confine themselves to professional reading, but should advocate the books that would inspire and enable people to obtain broad views of social life. It is an art that must be carefully studied to choose a number of books of a given character for the library. Influence on the public will depend al-

together on the books they take from the library, and books on topics which shall keep the readers alive to the needs and progress of the day should be available.

Miss Webster of Geneseo discussed "Local interest in the public library," and advocated rousing interest on the part of the country newspapers. Notices of the latest books should be posted in public places in towns and villages. Miss Massee of the Buffalo public library gave a list of books that she thought were best for children.

**New York**—The Long Island library club held its last quarterly meeting, May 20, in the museum of the Brooklyn institute. The afternoon program dealt with personal confessions of literary likes and dislikes.

Mrs. T. Barry gave her opinion of "The Duchess," which she praised rather than depreciated. Miss Rathbone, Pratt institute library school, acknowledged that she cared more for Kipling than for Keats. Kipling pictures the present, everyday man just as he is, and her sympathy centered on immediate surroundings. Miss Seldon of the Brooklyn public library told of her liking for the works of Jane Austen. Mabel R. Haines expressed the opinion that Alfred Austin, poet laureate of England, failed to inspire, and aroused nothing of enthusiasm in her. Mary Z. Cruice, Pratt institute free library, acknowledged that she disliked the works of Mark Twain. W. H. Duncan of the Brooklyn Commercial high school offered a criticism on the dramatic style of Bernard Shaw. He pronounced the technique of his work and characters poor, but thought he was decidedly strong in presenting climaxes.

May 29 was observed as library day in all the churches of Birmingham, Ala. In addition to presenting the claims of the library as a public institution, the ministers set forth the need of the particular denominational books represented.

### Printing Exhibit

Attention was called recently to the exhibition prepared by the Inland Printer technical school of Chicago (P. L. 15:155). The following libraries have shown or have arranged to show the exhibition of the work of the school under the direction of the person named. By communicating with the nearest one, others may obtain information about having the exhibit, or full information may be obtained from the Newark public library, Newark, N. J.

Otto Fleishner, Public library, Boston, Mass. April 1-30.

P. L. Windsor, University of Illinois library, Urbana, Ill. May 2-10.

A. E. Bostwick, Public library, St Louis, Mo. May 10-June 10.

H. M. Utley, Public library, Detroit, Mich. June 10-July 6.

T. M. Koch, University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, Mich. July 10-August 28.

Mrs S. C. Hughes, Memorial library, Terre Haute, Ind.

G. H. Locke, Public library, Toronto, Ont. W. F. Seward, Public library, Binghamton, N. Y.

James I. Wyer, New York State library, Albany, N. Y.

G. F. Nutting, Public library, Fitchburg, Mass.

W. E. Foster, Public library, Providence, R. I.

G. F. Bowerman, Public library, Washington, D. C.

This is one of the most interesting exhibits of its class and is unique in some ways. It will interest both printers and publishers, as well as the general public.

### Brookline's School Library

On page 15 of my recent book on "The American public library," it is stated that the New York public library's department of school work was the first of its kind. H. C. Wellman writes me that a similar department was established in Brookline on Oct. 2, 1899. In addition to the sending of traveling libraries to schools, which, of course, had been done by many libraries for years before the establishment of the New York Department, this depart-

ment was maintained by a special appropriation separate from the regular library appropriation and was in charge of a school reference librarian who spent her time in visiting teachers and receiving them and the pupils at her room, giving classes instructions in the use of books, etc.

ARTHUR E. BOSTWICK.

### List on City Government

A small slip issued by the City library, Springfield, Mass., under the name, "New ideas in city government," contains the following entries:

Boston Herald, 352 B65,

A plan of city government.

Chicago charter convention, 352 C43,

Digest of city charters.

Cleveland, F. A., 352 C59c,

Chapters on municipal administration and accounting.

Deming, H. E., 352 D39,

The government of American cities.

Des Moines, 352 D46,

The Des Moines plan of city government.

Fairlie, J. A., 352 F16e,

Essays in municipal administration.

Galveston, 352 G13,

Charter of the city of Galveston.

Lunn, H. S., 352 L97,

Municipal lessons from southern Germany.

Munro, W. B., 352 M92,

The government of European cities.

Rowe, L. S., 352 R79,

Problems of city government.

Schaffner, M. A., 352 S29,

Municipal home rule charters.

Shaw, Albert, 352 S52,

Municipal government in continental Europe.

Shaw, Albert, 352 S52m,

Municipal government in Great Britain.

Wilcox, D. F., 352 W64,

The American city; a problem in democracy.

In the *Monthly Bulletin* of the Carnegie library of Pittsburgh for June, there is a list of technical indexes and bibliographies appearing serially. The list fills 10 pages of the *Bulletin* and sufficient data concerning the material are given to furnish some idea of the value and scope of the various indexes. The list is classified by subject.



## Vox Clamantis

The Old Librarian's voice booms out  
with true Pearsonian thunder,  
"What binders have together joined,  
Librarians must not sunder."

His warning's lost on callous ears.  
They break our backs in twain,  
With ghoulish glee draw out our  
bones, and then begin again.

With pincers and with scissors armed,  
and eke with rusty knives

Glue-thirsty librisectionists deprive  
us of our lives.

The cyclopedias too are doomed.  
They're made of many parts.

Club-women cannot take them home  
unless they come with carts.

The *Readers' Guide* and trusty Poole  
hide their diminished heads.

"It takes so long to look things up,"  
we must be torn to shreds.

It was not thus in happier days.  
Books then were sacred things.

But fashions change in libraries; the  
good old times take wings.

For hasty, fussy busy-ness, things  
must be found to do.

Assistants else might open us and  
learn a thing or two

Oh Jared, Jared, in thy time, books  
were beloved of men.

Now fads and fancies hold their  
sway: their use beyond our ken.

A. D. D.

The finest music in the world is that  
which streams out to the ear of the  
spirit in many an exquisite strain from  
the hanging shelf of books on the oppo-  
site wall. Every volume there is an  
instrument which some melodist of the  
mind created and set vibrating with  
music, as a flower shakes out its per-  
fume or a star shakes out its light. Only  
listen, and they soothe all care, as  
though the silken soft leaves of poppies  
had been made vocal and poured into  
the ear.—J. L. ALLEN.

Many stories are like ashes; when  
thoroughly sifted there is not much left,  
and there is no life left.

## The Library and the Librarian\*

It is a far cry from Mr Jared Bean  
and his quiet library of 1774, to the  
librarian of 1910 and the library of  
the present day with all its varied  
activities; and one cannot help feel-  
ing in reading this second volume in  
the series in which the first was  
Jared's "Almanack," that Mr Bean  
was created to furnish a suitable  
background for this pleasant little  
account of everyday library life in  
a fairly large urban library. The old  
gentleman in his small library is here  
multiplied into a score or more of  
people, carrying on lines of work he  
never dreamed of, and reaching  
classes and masses whom he would  
have unhesitatingly barred out of the  
repository of polished learning over  
which he presided.

098,—*"Imaginary books,"* simply  
overflows with bibliographic humor,  
and ranks with that famous auction  
catalog of "books which never ex-  
isted" which created such a furore in  
the early part of the last century in  
France.

"Myth" disposes in two pages of  
those creations of the reporters, the  
famous librarians like B. Jowett, who  
always know everything or else  
know where to find it.

Mr Pearson's ideas on children's  
rooms and children's librarians, and  
on boys' reading, as given in the  
chapters "Children's librarians vs  
Huckleberry Finn," and "An ama-  
teur's notions of boys' books," and  
"Poems," are well known to most li-  
brarians. They should be read in  
staff meetings and apprentice classes,  
and should not be neglected in our  
library schools. We entirely agree  
with Mr Pearson about his choice of  
boy's books being left to the "lady  
librarian." Whole lists of authors,  
and even entire publishers, are ruled

\*The Librarian's Series. Edited by John Cot-  
ton Dana and Henry W. Kent. No. 2, *The  
Library and the Librarian*, by E. L. Pearson.  
Elm Tree Press, Woodstock, Vt., 1910. Single  
copies \$1.50. Series of six volumes, \$5.00.

out of court because they happen to be in series, as if that were the most awful indictment which can be brought against them. There are dozens of modern, up-to-date boy's books, clean and wholesome in every particular, which are not bought by children's librarians. They duplicate over and over, safe and reliable books of past ages, when the boy of 1910 wants books about aeroplanes and wireless. A young man, not too many years removed from boyhood, trained in the library ways, who knows both boys and books, who likes both boys and books, should have more to do with real boys and real boys' books than the "lady librarian."

In the "President of the board," and the "Catalog beautiful," Mr Pearson pays his respect to the fearfully and wonderfully made card catalogs which so discourage even the stalwart reader; and then shows, in the latter of these two chapters, how alluring and instructive a card catalog can be when flavored with Kipling and other poets.

Perhaps the best part of the book to some long-suffering librarians, and more especially to loan clerks and desk attendants, are the three chapters entitled "Mrs J Pomfret Smith," "That girl at the library," and "Meeting the public." These have well-known characters in them; in fact the same characters, whether under the same names or not, appear and reappear in these chapters. They are all drawn to, and from, life, with an artist's touch.

Mrs J Pomfret Smith is well known as the patron who certainly needs all the advantages of the library, and she comes well-nigh to getting them also. The librarian who is getting up an exhibition at the eleventh hour,—which means that one set of assistants toil over the bibliographies and catalogs, another set collects the books, a third set repairs to a cold or hot exhibition room

to put them in order, in other words that someone else does all the work,—should be punished in some fitting manner. He ought to be compelled to do picture bulletins for the children's room as a punishment.

That one sentence in Miss Martin's tale of an afternoon, and evening at the library, in which she concisely describes the method of discharging books is tragic. We recommend, for that library, the Newark charging system which discharges a book thus, "when the book is returned the borrower's card only is stamped with the return date, and the borrower may at once proceed to get another book." This library, where Miss Martin is working, seems to have tried the open shelf scheme, with scandalizing results and, not having been built as an open access library, of course all of the disagreeables come on the desk assistants.

These pen pictures have much local color about them, peculiar to a certain section of the country, and the types are constant. Miss Calvert, Mrs Boomwhacker, Mr Titewad, and Mr Paddock, are well known characters in many of our public libraries. That we do not have more, or other disagreeables, among our mixed and varied populations is a matter for congratulation. Certainly the public library, the free public library, with an emphasis on the free, has in many cases entirely changed the character of the patrons of the library.

I remember the distinct change, in a certain university town, from the house owners and tax payers to the boarding house people in one decade. It is a grave question, whether freeing the library so much and in so many directions has not cheapened and lowered it also.

The reference side of the public library is represented in the chapters, "Librarians and readers" and "The man behind the encyclopædia." The reference man has troubles of his

own. Everyone who has done reference work has met the reader who will not tell what he wants, the reader who does not want what he asks for, does not ask for what he needs, and does not recognize material when it is brought to him, and all their varied and undefined variations and combinations. Mrs Maclay is not so bad a type, for she must have some sense of humor, a saving grace. But the travel lady who could not or would not say elephant, the woman who could only spell Holland, and refused books on Flanders, Low Countries and Netherlands as being attempts to deceive her; the professorial problem; the man who hypnotized himself over Plato, in the original upside down, all are with us over and over again. Even the escaped lunatic who in this case was a crank on buffaloes—no bison for him—does occur, sporadically and thankfully. There are other reference readers whom Mr. Pearson has probably in reserve for other occasions.

Lastly and modestly, the librarian himself is shown in the chapters, "The librarian in fiction" and "The square peg." "The square peg" is the tale of a graduate from a library school, who experiences many things, loses much time and spends not a little money in securing a position, where he may show forth his wealth of knowledge. The sketches of trustees given in this chapter and elsewhere in the book are to the nature drawn.

We wish Mr Pearson well of this book and look for more good work from him. The book is bright, witty and wise, and the study of human nature, and the humor of it all recommend it as an instant cure for library blues. Technically it is well made. Buy it, read it and keep it.

GEORGE E. WIRE.

Worcester, Mass.

## Library Schools

### Carnegie library of Atlanta

The fifth year of the Library training school was brought to a close, Wednesday, June 1. The exercises were presided over by President Robert L. Foreman, of the board of trustees of the Carnegie library. Miss L. E. Stearns of the Wisconsin library commission delivered the principal address, after which certificates were presented to the 12 graduates, as follows: Agnes Goss, Athens, Ga.; Randolph Archer, Chapel Hill, N. C.; Caroline Gregg, Marietta, Ga.; Dagmar Holmes, Montgomery, Ala.; Gertrude Olmsted, Bloomfield, N. J.; Mary Mullen, Montgomery, Ala.; Anne Murrill, Minnie Murrill, Blacksburg, Va.; Ethel Pitcher, Frances Pickett, Montgomery, Ala.; Lucy Yancey, Atlanta; Louie Smith, College Park, Ga.

On May 30-31, Miss Stearns lectured to the class on "Commission work in the West, and on the "Problem of the boy and the girl." Another interesting talk which was greatly enjoyed was entitled "The passing of the bonnet."

The last week in April, Miss Plummer gave the class some interesting talks, the subjects being "The management of the small library and librarianship, and what does it mean?" in addition to "The seven joys of reading."

In March, Miss Lyman of Iowa gave her lectures on children's work and the selection of books for children. Miss Lyman has been added to the faculty of the school, as a non-resident lecturer on these subjects. Her story-telling gave great pleasure to the class and all hearers as usual. During her stay the class entertained for her at tea in the class room.

### Notes of graduates

Agnes Goss, '10, has been appointed librarian of the State normal school library at Athens, Ga.

Randolph Archer, '10, has been appointed assistant librarian of the University of North Carolina library for one year, to take the place of Miss Strudwick, who has been granted a year's leave of absence.

Dagmar Holmes, '10, has been appointed substitute in the Savannah public library.

Mary Mullen, '10, has been appointed organizer of the Howard college library, Birmingham, Ala.

Louie Smith, '10, has been engaged to do filing and indexing for the Southern Bell Telephone Company.

Inez Daughtry, '08, has resigned her position as assistant librarian of the library of the North Carolina State normal and industrial college, Greensboro, to become an assistant in the library of the State university, Athens, Ga.

Louise Smith, '08, has been transferred from the Anne Wallace branch library to the Carnegie library of Atlanta, as first assistant in the cataloging department.

Harriet Webster, '09, has been appointed librarian of the Anne Wallace branch library, to succeed Miss Smith.

JULIA T. RANKIN, Director.

#### Drexel Institute

There were 21 students graduated on June 9, receiving full certificate for completion of the course.

Graduates of the school have been appointed to the following positions: Minerva G. Beckwith, '10, cataloger, University of Chicago library.

Mabel Eaman, '10, cataloger, University of Chicago library.

Mary E. Herr, '10, assistant, New York public library, Chatham Square Branch.

Cordelia B. Hodge, '10, assistant, Pennsylvania free library commission.

Helen E. Myers, '08, cataloger, University of Chicago library.

Josephine O'Flynn, '09, instructor

in summer training classes at Ferris institute, Big Rapids, Mich.

Adah E. Shelly, '10, cataloger, University of Chicago library.

Mrs Elizabeth M. Short, '10, temporary assistant, Girard college library, Philadelphia, Pa.

Alice N. Tyler, '10, cataloger, University of Chicago library.

Ruth Woolman, '10, cataloger, University of Chicago library.

Entrance examinations were held on June 3.

The class supper, to which the faculty of the school were invited, was held on June 3 at Valley Green, one of the inns on the beautiful Wissahickon drive, about 10 miles out of Philadelphia.

Miss Donnelly and Miss Hopkins entertained the class at dinner on the evening of June 7. The dinner was given at Hamilton Court, where many class functions have been held in former years.

Succeeding the dinner came the annual social gathering of the alumnae, with a short talk by Miss Donnelly; and then the meeting adjourned to attend the general reception held in the great court of the institute.

Class night was observed in the auditorium on the evening of June 10. The library school was represented on the program by Miltanna Rowe, who told one of the "tar-baby" stories, and as an encore gave a humorous incident in the Amish or Pennsylvania-Dutch dialect.

Miss Donnelly sailed on June 11 for a three months' trip in Europe.

JULIA A. HOPKINS.

#### University of Illinois

Ten members of the junior class of the *Illinois* Library school, accompanied by Miss Simpson, visited the Springfield libraries, May 14.

Commencement exercises at the University of Illinois were held on June 15.

The senior class of the Library school numbered eight students, all of whom received the degree of B.L.S. from the university. The names of the graduates are as follows: Mary C. Bigelow, Alice L. Blair, Elizabeth S. Bryan, J. S. Cleavinger, Bertha M. Schneider, Lucy G. Wilson, Nelle M. Wilson and Margaret C. Wood. Margaret M. Herdman and Agnes B. Cooper from the junior class and Alice L. Blair from the senior class received the degree of A.B. in the College of literature and arts.

At a recent meeting of the board of trustees of the University of Illinois the requirements for entrance to the Library school were advanced to four years of college work, including a bachelor's degree. The new requirement will be enforced on and after Sept. 1, 1911.

One of the most delightful occurrences in connection with the commencement session has been a visit of Miss Sharp to the university. This was Miss Sharp's first return since her resignation, three years ago, and it is almost superfluous to say that she received a most cordial welcome from her many friends in the university, in the library staff and among the faculty and students of the Library school. The school hopes to entertain Miss Sharp again next fall, when she will probably give a course of lectures.

Another feature of almost equal enjoyment during commencement week was the return of a number of alumni. Grace Goodale Keator, '02; Bertha Bond, '05; Eugenia Allin, '03; Elizabeth Forrest, '06; Ella McIntire, '09; Josephine Meissner, '06; Grace Kelley, '03, and Mabel Perry MacNeal, '04, were among those who returned.

The Library school is issuing a new circular of information, giving a short sketch of the history of the school since its foundation, list of the faculty, items of interest with respect to its work and a statement of the revised course of study which will be enforced next year. A copy will be sent to each former student of the school.

#### Personal

Mary C. Bigelow, Ill. '10, has returned to her position in the Rockford public library.

Elizabeth S. Bryan, Ill. '10, continues her work as assistant in the Champaign public library.

Margaret C. Wood, Ill. '10, has been engaged temporarily at the University of Illinois library.

Mrs Bertha S. Baird, Ill. '11, has been engaged to organize the public library at Winchester, Ill.

Marcus Skarstedt, Ill. '11, will act as temporary junior assistant at The John Crerar library during the summer. Mr Skarstedt has been absent from the school during the spring completing his senior year at Augustana college, Rock Island, where he received the degree of A.B., but will return next year to complete the work with the senior class.

Marcia Clay, Ill. '05, is cataloger at the Young Men's mercantile library, Cincinnati, Ohio.

Agnes Nichol, Ill. '07, has resigned her position as reference librarian at the Ohio state library and was married on June 16 to Dr Foster of Monticello, Ill.

The following members of the junior class of the University of Illinois library school are engaged in recataloging the library of the University of Chicago under the supervision of Helen Ervin, Ill. '09: Octavia Rogan, Mary Goff, Charles C. Knapp. On the first of July they will be joined by Jessie Arms, Marie Hammond, Etna Phillips and Anna L. Gray.

The president of the University of Illinois library school association, F. K. W. Drury, has sent to each member of the alumni association a letter urging the desirability of attendance at the A. L. A. meetings at Mackinac, with particular emphasis upon the school reunion July 4. Many responses have been received, and a large, enthusiastic attendance is looked for.

FRANCES SIMPSON.

#### New York state library

The school will suffer a serious loss in the resignation of Corinne Bacon, since 1904 principal instructor,



who will become next September chief of the catalog department of the Newark (N. J.) free public library. Not only as a recognized expert in the technical side of library work and as an excellent instructor in technical subjects, but in her wide range of reading and her close interest in the students and in library matters in general, Miss Bacon has made for herself a place in the school that will not soon be forgotten. She will take with her to her new field of activity the best wishes of the faculty and of the past and present students with whom she has been associated.

The summer session began June 1, with an enrollment of 19 for both courses and five for the special three weeks' course in Government documents, bibliography, and reference. Five others are enrolled for the special course in cataloging and classification which will begin June 22. Miss Bacon is in general charge of the summer school.

The course in library binding was supplemented by a demonstration of book-mending and repairing given May 19 by Miss Crissey of the Troy public library and by a lecture on library binding for fiction and juveniles given May 27 by A. L. Bailey, chairman of the A. L. A. committee on bookbinding.

The lecture course in children's work this year comprised four lectures (May 17-20) by Miss Lyman, Advisory children's librarian of the Iowa library commission; a lecture by Miss Plummer of the Pratt institute library school (May 23) on "A child's reading of poetry"; and four lectures (May 24-26) by Miss Burnite, supervisor of children's work of the Cleveland public library, on the administrative side of children's work.

The final lecture of the advanced administration course was given May 27 by Miss Underhill of the Utica public library.

Two members of the advisory committee of the New York state library school association, A. L. Bailey of the Wilmington institute free library and Mary L. Jones, librarian of Bryn Mawr college, visited the school May 26.

Henry W. Kent, secretary of the Metropolitan museum of art, addressed the school, June 2, on "The librarian, the bibliophile." Mr Kent's address was a plea for the librarian to rise above mere technique and to take his place among real book lovers.

F. K. WALTER.

#### Pratt institute

The spring visits to local libraries have been completed. The school faculty take turns in accompanying the class on these occasions partly in order to keep informed of the new methods and experiments being tried.

The lecture-course ended May 27, with Miss Burnite's lecture on the "Furniture and fittings of children's rooms in libraries."

The school subscribed for the New-ark library's collection called "Parts of a book" and has the same on exhibition on the walls of the art gallery to remain until the end of the school year, the library at the same time exhibiting a collection of book-plates by Arthur MacDonald.

The whole Saturdays allowed as holidays in the spring give an opportunity for all-day excursions of which classes generally take advantage. On June 4, the majority of the class of 1910 took the river-trip to West Point, remaining awhile to see the Saturday dress-parade. The visit to some of the Staten Island branches was also made the occasion of a little jaunt to Richmond, L. I., by trolley.

The students have had a choice this year between making a picture-bulletin and a story-telling list, for which they were expected to look up the sources, the best versions, editions, and illustrations of the stories listed. Bul-

letins have been completed on the following subjects: Battleships, Modern airships, Locomotives, past and present, \*Steamships, The Panama Canal, The Land of Cotton, Napoleon, Dolls, Indian Legends, The Evolution of the book, Gardening, The Automobile book, and lists have been made for story-telling, as follows: German stories, Hero stories, Indian stories, King Arthur stories, Miscellaneous stories, Myths and Legends from many lands, Norse stories, Poems for the Story-hour, Sea stories, Stories of Spain, Stories from well-known books for children. Each student has had one or more evenings in the children's room during the story-telling hour and all have heard Miss Tyler of the New York public library tell at least two stories. Several have been giving part of their practice-time to children's rooms in the New York public and Queens Borough systems.

Commencement exercises for the entire institute took place the evening of June 16. The commencement speaker was Rev. Hugh Black.

Applicants for the class of 1911 were examined June 10.

#### Movements of graduates

Miss Stevens ('98 and 1900) has resigned the librarianship of the New Rochelle public library to take that of the Dalles (Ore.) public library. She attended the meeting of the Pacific Northwest library association.

Miss Adams ('03) has been obliged to resign as children's librarian at the Utica public library on account of ill health.

Mrs H. P. Sawyer ('04) has resigned her position with the Wisconsin Commission to take charge of the training of apprentices in the St Louis public library system. She goes abroad for the summer.

Other graduates spending the summer in Europe are Misses Bragg ('04), Carter and Sibley ('06).

Miss Hulsizer ('05), branch librarian at Ozone Park, L. I., announces her engagement to Fred Powell, of Philadelphia.

Mrs. K. M. Jacobson ('05), now referee cataloger in the library of Chicago university, is to give a course of lectures at the Iowa university summer school the coming season.

Miss Browne ('09) has been promoted to the position of head-cataloger at the University of North Dakota.

#### Class of 1910

The following have made definite engagements:

Miss Akin as librarian of the State Agricultural college at Grinnell, Iowa.

Miss Bement with the State library, Michigan, as reference-assistant.

Miss Crane as general assistant with the Pratt institute free library, after a summer of substituting in the Iowa state library.

Miss Harris will substitute during August in the Union Settlement library.

Miss Raymond as cataloger and indexer with the American society of civil engineers, New York.

Miss Sleneau as librarian of the Port Huron, Mich., public library.

Miss Tappert as librarian of the New Rochelle (N. Y.) public library.

Miss Webb with the Fort Wayne (Ind.) public library as children's librarian.

Misses Adams and Fullerton go abroad for the summer.

Nearly all the remaining members of the class have engagements pending.

MARY W. PLUMMER, Director.

#### Western Reserve university

During the month of May, several out-of-town library visits were made by the class under the direction of Miss Whittlesey. These visits included Oberlin, Elyria, Willoughby, Painesville and Youngstown. The

five places afforded an opportunity to see libraries of decidedly different size and kind, from a small public library in the village of Willoughby, which is housed in as complete and attractive a small building as any library could well be, to the new and splendidly equipped one in Youngstown. At Oberlin was seen the housing and working of a large college library and at Painesville that of a small one, each as suited to its work as the other. What can be done under poorer equipment was admirably seen at Elyria, where the library is housed in two floors of a commercial building, and in Youngstown in the temporary quarters in an old house now occupied by the library. The fact that the trips were of one, or at most, two days in length, and were scheduled through different weeks made them very much less fatiguing, and for that reason kept up the interest and enthusiasm of the students throughout. The discussion of these trips after they had all been taken showed that the students had enjoyed and profited by them and had been wide-awake to the individual qualities of each. Not the least pleasant feature was the warm hospitality extended in all places and the appreciation of what these visits might mean to the students.

In May the Carnegie West Side branch of the Cleveland public library was completed and formally opened to the public. On Friday, May 21, the children's department was opened and the class of the library school attended in order to hear the stories told to the children by Mrs. Gudrun Thorn-Thomsen. During the opening weeks the students were scheduled evenings for loan practice. On the evening of June 9, the staff and the students of the school were included in a reception held at the branch by the trustees of the library.

The following lecturers were at the

school in May; G. O. Ward, librarian of the Technical high school, whose subject was "The selection of the technical books for a library;" Miss Keffer, instructor in art history at Lake Erie college, whose subject was "The selection of art books;" Anna G. Hubbard, head of the Order department of the Cleveland public library, whose subject was "Book buying;" Mrs Gudrun Thorn-Thomsen of the School of education, University of Chicago, whose subject was "Children's literature;" and C. W. Burrows, president of the Burrows Brothers Company, whose subject was "Postal laws and rates." The class has also enjoyed this month several stereopticon lectures on library history from Mr Brett. JULIA M. WHITTLESEY,  
Director.

#### Wisconsin

The last month of the school year has been a busy one, with regular class appointments as usual, and the work on the graduating bibliographies. At the closing exercises, on Tuesday evening, June 21, Henry E. Legler, former director of the school, gave the address. His subject was "Newer ideals in library work."

The entrance examinations for the class of 1911 were held on June 10. Seventy applicants took the examinations, which were competitive. Twenty-five only will be accepted as students for the new class.

The end of the year brings several changes in the faculty of the school. Mrs H. P. Sawyer, who has been identified with the school and the commission work since the organization of the school in the fall of 1906, has resigned her position on the eve of her departure for Europe. On her return, she becomes director of the training class, St Louis public library. Her resignation is accepted with deep regret, for she has been an able instructor, a wise counselor, and an inspiring worker, both in the school and the state. Her excellent

judgment, her broad humanity and wide sympathies, together with a never-failing humor, have brought her many friends, both among her fellow workers, the students, and librarians and citizens of the state. All wish her great success in her new field of work.

Mrs T. R. Brewitt, a graduate of the school, class of 1908, and an assistant in the school since that time, resigned her position June 1, to accept the librarianship of the Normal school library, Lewiston, Idaho. Mrs Brewitt was a most valuable member of the staff, and she will be greatly missed by her fellow workers and the students.

The following members of the class of 1910 have positions:

Lilly M. E. Borresen, reviser, Summer session, Wisconsin library school. Mrs Minnie C. Budlong, secretary, North Dakota library commission.

Gretchen L. Flower, assistant, Public library, Superior, Wis.

Winifred Gregory, librarian, River-side branch of Public library, Minneapolis, Minn.

Ruth P. Hughes, children's librarian, Public library, Freeport, Ill.

Katherine A. Kiemle, acting librarian, Normal school library, Cheney, Wash.

Corina L. Kittelson, assistant, cataloging department, Public library, St Paul, Minn.

Hannah M. Lawrence, children's librarian, Public library, Buffalo, N. Y.

Marie Minton, librarian, Sears, Roebuck & Co., Chicago, Ill.

Louise Randall, substitute, cataloging department, Public library, St Joseph, Mo.

Anne B. Skinner, librarian, Rockford college library, Rockford, Ill.

Mae I. Stearns, substitute, cataloging department, Newberry library, Chicago, Ill.

Grace M. Stevens, librarian, Public library, Wausau, Wis.

Blanch L. Unterkircher, librarian, Public library, Marshfield, Wis.

Emma M. Wald, cataloger, Public library, Racine, Wis.

Alice S. Wyman, librarian, Alabama Girls' industrial school, Tuscaloosa, Ala.

MARY EMOGENE HAZELTINE,  
Preceptor.

### Summer Schools

The third annual summer school for library training opened at Montgomery, Ala., June 22, under the direction of the State department of archives and history. The course is without cost to the students and is under the direction of Miss T. D. Barker, assistant in the library extension department.

The Michigan state library commission will again conduct summer library schools in all the state normals. Every possible convenience will be supplied and the best instructors that can be obtained will be placed in charge. There will be a collection of 500 books, showing the model library covered by the list issued by the commission. An equipment of Library Bureau tools and supplies, as an object lesson of systematic records and equipment, will also be installed.

F. K. Walter of the New York library school will give lectures on reference books and government documents at Marquette and Kalamazoo. Miss Massee of the Buffalo public library will give lectures on children's work at Marquette, Kalamazoo and at the Ferris institute at Big Rapids. The class at Kalamazoo will be in charge of Miss Braley, librarian of the institution. Mabel C. True, formerly connected with the University of Michigan library and now in the state library, will be instructor at Marquette. Josephine O'Flynn, cataloger and instructor in the Detroit

public library, will have charge of the work at Big Rapids.

Further information concerning the work can be obtained by writing to Mrs Mary C. Spencer, State library, Lansing, Mich.

A summer school for library training will be held at Chapel Hill as a department of summer session of the University of North Carolina, June 6-July 16. Those engaged in library work and teachers are eligible for admission to the course, but must file written applications in advance. The school will be under the direction of Louis R. Wilson, librarian of the University library, and Miss M. W. Leatherman, secretary of the North Carolina library commission. No tuition fee will be charged, but a regular fee of \$3 will be required of all students of the summer school. Board and lodging at the University Inn will be offered for \$25 for the term of six weeks. The village boarding houses offer rates, varying from \$15 to \$20 a month.

#### News from the Field East

The Public library of Stonington, Conn., receives a bequest of \$20,000 by the will of the late E. M. Phelps of Chicago.

Arrangements have been completed to place two statues, "Art" and "Science," companion pieces to "Literature," in the group in front of the entrance to the Boston public library. The order had formerly been given to St Gaudens, but the work will be finished by Bela L. Pratt.

The annual report of the Public library of Somerville, Mass., records a total circulation of 469,846 v., with 90,423 v. on the shelves. About 30 per cent of circulation was non-fiction. The nine Sunday schools of Somerville take books from the library. Volumes are also delivered at clubs, hospitals and police stations; 472 vacation cards were issued.

The year was marked by the completion and opening of the West Somerville branch library. A reduction of 50 per cent was made in the binding bills for the year in consequence of the establishment of a bindery for repairing books in the library.

The annual report of the Providence public library for 1909 records 22,013 borrowers; a circulation of 199,950; and a "stock" of 144,695. Much emphasis has been laid on co-operation during the year, not only with the schools, but with other libraries. In the matter of inter-library loans, the books lent from the library during the past year far outnumber those lent to the library. The librarian's report, as printed, is based, as usual, on the detailed department reports submitted by members of the staff. In every portion of the report, the need for the extension of the building is dwelt upon; and it is evident that the various departments of the work must be greatly hampered until this has been accomplished.

There were 20 exhibits held during the year in the lecture room. A suitable screen has been provided for exhibition of lantern slides. The library continues to increase its work among foreign readers.

The annual report of the Public library of Lynn, Mass., shows a circulation for 1909 of 230,483 v., of which 29,172 v. were loaned through the public schools; 83,670 books and 15,530 pamphlets on the shelves; amount available for maintenance, \$21,191. Analysis of delivery shows a falling off from the figures of the previous year in fiction, literature and science, and a gain of history, biography, travel, sociology, religion and philosophy. Deposit stations were maintained at the engine houses and at various other social and educational centers. In addition to the regular lecture courses, the lecture room was used for teachers' meetings, class work in public schools upon litera-



ture, history, geography and drawing, and for exhibitions from the art collections in the library. The tourist and vacation exhibits were made extremely interesting by gifts of photographs, maps and booklets and folders from the various railroad lines.

The new library building of Smith college was dedicated May 27. President Seelye reviewed the history of the college and particularly the development of the library. The dedicatory address was made by Dr W. Dawson Johnston, librarian of Columbia library. Miss Clark, the librarian, told the needs of the library, the most urgent of which is an endowment fund for the purchase of books.

The statistics of circulation for the year 1909 in the Public library of Medford, Mass., are as follows: Adults, 57,426 v.; juvenile, 52,197 v.; total, 109,623 v. This circulation represents an average of about five books per capita. There is an increased demand for technical works; actual number taking books, 6420. Exhibits were received from the Library Art club.

#### Central Atlantic

Harriet E. Leitch, N. Y. '09-'10, has been appointed assistant in the Cleveland public library.

Frances D Lyon, N. Y. '09-'10, has been appointed sub-librarian of the New York state law library.

Lulu A. Stronge, N. Y. '09-'10, has been appointed assistant in the Aguilar branch of the New York public library.

The Coburn free library of Owego, N. Y., received a gift of 125 v. of rare genealogical and historical works. The collection with the accompanying case is valued at \$1000.

The report of the Osterhout free library, Wilkes-Barré, Pa., records a circulation of 121,734 v. Of these, 2530 were foreign books and 43,954

were from the children's room. The experiment in the open shelf system has proved very satisfactory, the advantages outweighing every difficulty incurred.

The new Public library, gift of Andrew Carnegie to Olean, N. Y., was opened, May 21, with appropriate ceremonies. The building cost \$50,000 and combines in design, convenience and interior planning, the good feature of many of the best libraries throughout the country. A bronze tablet placed just inside the main entrance bears the name of the giver and the date of the opening of the building. Maud Brooks is in charge of the library.

The Free library of Philadelphia will hold an exhibition of plates at the Spring Garden branch during June and July. The exhibition cases have been filled with plates from *Tapis de l'Asie Centrale* (Rugs from Central Asia). This work was executed lately at the expense of the czar of Russia. It contains 36 chromo-lithographic plates reproducing the colors of the rugs. Other illustrations show countries, peoples and development of the rug industry in the portion of Central Asia under Russian control. The text of the work is in the Russian and French languages.

The Carnegie library of Pittsburgh employs a young girl who takes the old books that are too far gone for repair, and washes them with a weak solution of ammonia water. Broken places are patched and sometimes a new back is put on. They are then sent to the playground during the summer. The library has about 8000 v. now ready for the playgrounds at an expense of about six cents a volume.

Another bit of effective work that is done is the making of bulletins at odd moments by the apprentice help in the library. Attractive lists

of books are presented with colored inks, interspersed with illustrations of principal characters or scenes from books listed. Three specially attractive bulletins recently made are on Shakespeare, Napoleon and Dickens.

The annual report of the Public library of Bradford, Pa., records the number of books for home use, 89,904 v., of which one-fourth were juvenile; increase of two per cent in the number of class books loaned; number of borrowers, 5382. A number of exhibitions have been held and a number of organizations hold their meetings in the library.

At a recent meeting of the heads of the New York state prison schools at Auburn, N. Y., Miss Clark, librarian of the Seymour library of that city, representing the New York state library association, presented a paper on "Library aids to the trades and handicrafts." An informal discussion of the paper and lists presented on the same subject was followed by a general discussion of books for prison libraries. The desirability of trained librarians in the prison libraries received the hearty support of the prison authorities.

The fourteenth annual report of the Free library of Philadelphia forms a pamphlet of 88 pages. It reports 352,340 v. in use and 73,000 pamphlets; circulation, 2,001,239 v.; 154,203 borrowers' cards in use; receipts, \$239,359; expenditures, \$235,887. Eleven of the 30 branches, gift of Mr Carnegie, have been opened and three others are under contract.

An interesting branch is that founded by Robert W. Ryerss, who left 40 acres of land and a mansion with some books and many curios to be used as a library and museum. By agreement with the Fairmount Park commission the library and the museum have been placed in the hands of the Free library.

The department for the blind re-

ports the largest circulation since it was opened. In coöperation with the Pennsylvania Home Teaching society, 17,422 v. were loaned to readers.

The children's department shows a gratifying improvement in the class of books read. The circulation was 552,728 v. and 15,678 readers' cards issued. The library league, in several branches among working boys from 14 to 18 years of age, continues to grow in interest with good results in evidence. The report gives in detail the practical work of the 19 existing branches and of the several departments of the main library. More than 14,500 children attended the story hours, during which 218 stories were related, an average attendance of 66. Traveling libraries were placed at 70 stations and 8,926 books were taken out from them by 41,067 readers.

#### Central

Edith Whitman, for some time librarian of the Public library, Moorhead, Minn., has resigned her position, to take effect, July 15.

Carl H. Milam, secretary of the Public library commission of Indiana, was married, May 16, to Nellie W. Robinson of Kansas City.

Edward D. Tweedell, reference librarian of The John Crerar library Chicago, was married, June 8, to Lida Willis Bothwell at Albany, N. Y.

Harriet E. Howe, who has been head cataloger at the University of Iowa for several years, takes a similar position in the Public library of Minneapolis, July 1.

The annual report of the Public library of Minneapolis records number of books, 198,209 v.; total circulation, 789,808 v.; number of card holders, 60,847; expended for books and periodicals, \$21,092; salaries, \$44,974; total expenses for 1909, \$103,355. Notable gifts of the year was a field house to be used as a branch library

in Camden Park, and 22 paintings for the art gallery. Among the collection are two by Sir Anthony Van Dyck, two by Sir Peter Lely, one Turner, one Correggio, one Corot, one Murrillo and one Botticelli.

Katherine Sleneau has been appointed librarian of the Public library, Port Huron, Mich. She will begin her work July 1. Miss Sleneau has spent the past year in the library school of Pratt institute.

Mrs H. P. Sawyer of the staff of the Wisconsin library school, will spend the summer in Berlin, Germany. Mrs Sawyer will become director of the training class of the St Louis public library on her return from Europe.

Charles E. Rush, for the past two years librarian of Jackson, Mich., has resigned his position. A change in the board of trustees led to a change of policy in the library work with which Mr Rush was not in sympathy, and his resignation followed.

The annual report of the Reuben MacMillan free library of Youngstown, Ohio, reports a circulation of 83,893 v.; 2012 new borrowers were recorded. Special attention is given to the library's collection of books for men employed in the city's mills and factories, its work among foreigners, the possibility of out-of-doors reading rooms, coöperation with other associations and jail reading.

The annual report of the Michigan state library commission is a very interesting document, and is an indication of earnest, effective work on the part of the state library force. Particular stress has been laid during the last year, upon building up the rural school library system, trying through personal contact with the educational forces of the state to imbue them with the library spirit, in which considerable progress has been made. The commission does not take

cognizance of the more important libraries of the state, deeming them not to come within the scope of the commission work.

Training classes were carried on in all the normal schools during the past summer. No expense nor pains have been spared to make the work most complete in equipment and construction.

The annual report of the library of the University of Iowa notes 5,088 v. added to the library; 9,134 v. cataloged and re-cataloged. The library has been made a depository for the Library of Congress card catalog. Special effort was made to encourage more and better reading among the students. Attention was called to good books by, 1) special loan collections, including translations of foreign classics. Lists were printed and distributed among the students; 2) "new book shelf;" 3) pictorial bulletins posted in the reading room above a table containing the books to which attention was called; 4) selected reading matter bearing on subjects of current interest on a current events table; 5) under a poster heading, "Have you read this?" a typewritten list of the leading articles in the periodicals of the month; 6) newspaper items.

Short descriptive notes were placed on the catalog cards of books that seem to need it, and standard reviews have been pasted in the books themselves. In each drawer of the catalog was inserted a guide card containing full directions for the use of the catalog. On the projection that extends the full length of the card was printed in red ink, "How to use the library."

The corner-stone of the Harper memorial library was laid with appropriate ceremonies, June 14. President Judson reviewed the events that led up to the plans for the new building which will cost over \$800,000, \$200,000 of which

was subscribed by friends and admirers of the first president of the university.

The building will be fireproof throughout and will have room for over a million volumes. The reading room in the center will be the largest in existence. Two Gothic towers are to be at the east and west ends of the structure. Marble stairways with statuary will make the entrance attractive. Decorative stone bridges will connect the reading floor with the reading rooms of the law library and Haskell museum.

The stone was laid in its place by the widow of Dr Harper. The first address was made by C. W. Andrews of The John Crerar library. Mr Andrews emphasized the value of systematic arrangement of books and showed that those libraries which were most highly organized were simplest in their administration and most effective in the work which they did. Arrangement, classification and cataloging were essential.

Mr Andrews was followed by Dr E. B. Burton of the Divinity school of the University of Chicago. Dr Burton dwelt particularly on the influence of Dr Harper's life as an example, and thought a great library was a fitting memorial for a man who believed in books. He said that the library would be not only the largest of its kind, but would have a system of administration unique among libraries.

The ceremony was attended by the faculty, 400 students who were up for degree on that day and a large number of citizens. At the close, the procession of faculty and students proceeded to the Bartlett gymnasium, where the convocation address was delivered by Dr F. W. Gunsaulus, who took for his subject, "The library."

It is expected that at least two years will be consumed in the construction of the new library building.

#### Pacific coast

Martha E. Spafford, N. Y. '02-'03, has been engaged to catalogue the Public library at Astoria, Ore.

Kate M. Firman, N. Y. '10, has been appointed assistant in the catalog department of the Tacoma public library.

Judge and Mrs Charles E. Remsberg have given \$1259 to University of Washington library, Seattle, for the purchase of books on Pacific Northwest history.

Purd B. Wright, since 1896 librarian of St Joseph (Mo.) public library, has been appointed librarian of Public library of Los Angeles, Cal. He assumes his new duties August 1.

Mr Wright has been connected with the St Joseph public library since its foundation, being one of the original promoters of the plans for the library. He is well prepared for the duties of his new position.

#### Foreign

The annual report of the Osaka library, Japan, shows the number of volumes in the library, March, 1910, to be 74,995 v. Of these, 44,205 were by purchase, of which 38,374 were Japanese and Chinese books, and 5831 were foreign books; 30,790 were gifts, of which 29,816 were Japanese and Chinese books and 974 were foreign books. Books used in the reading room, Japanese and Chinese, 544,831 v., foreign, 19,803; issued for home use, Japanese and Chinese books, 1237; foreign books, 125; total use, 556,996; number of readers, both at home and in the library, 145,146; number of days open, 336.

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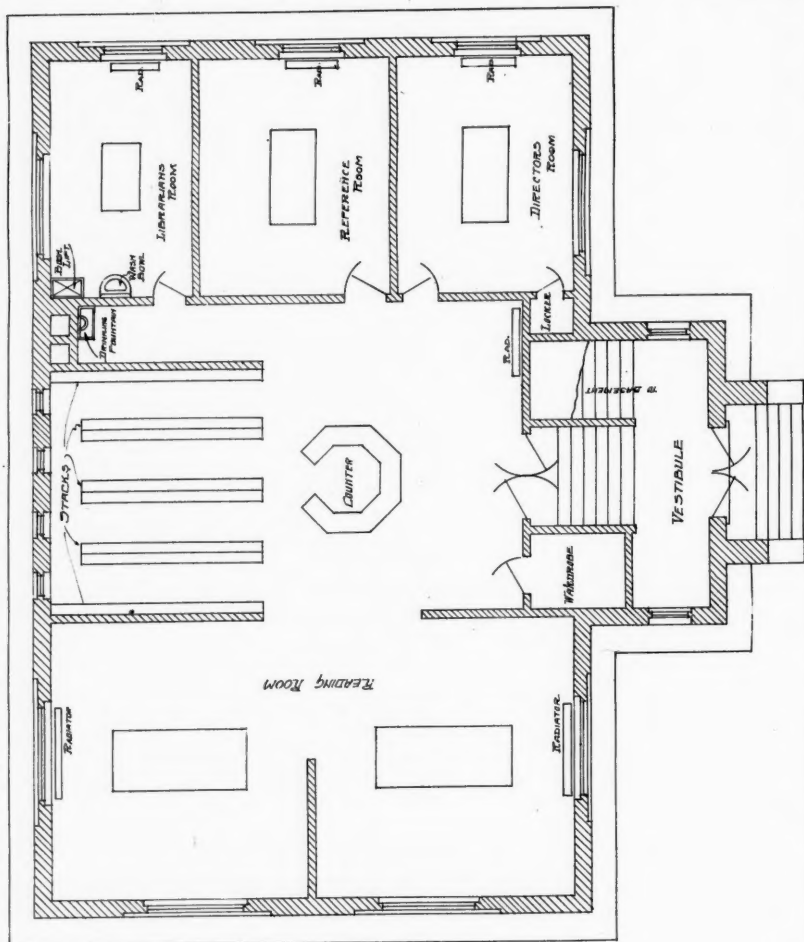
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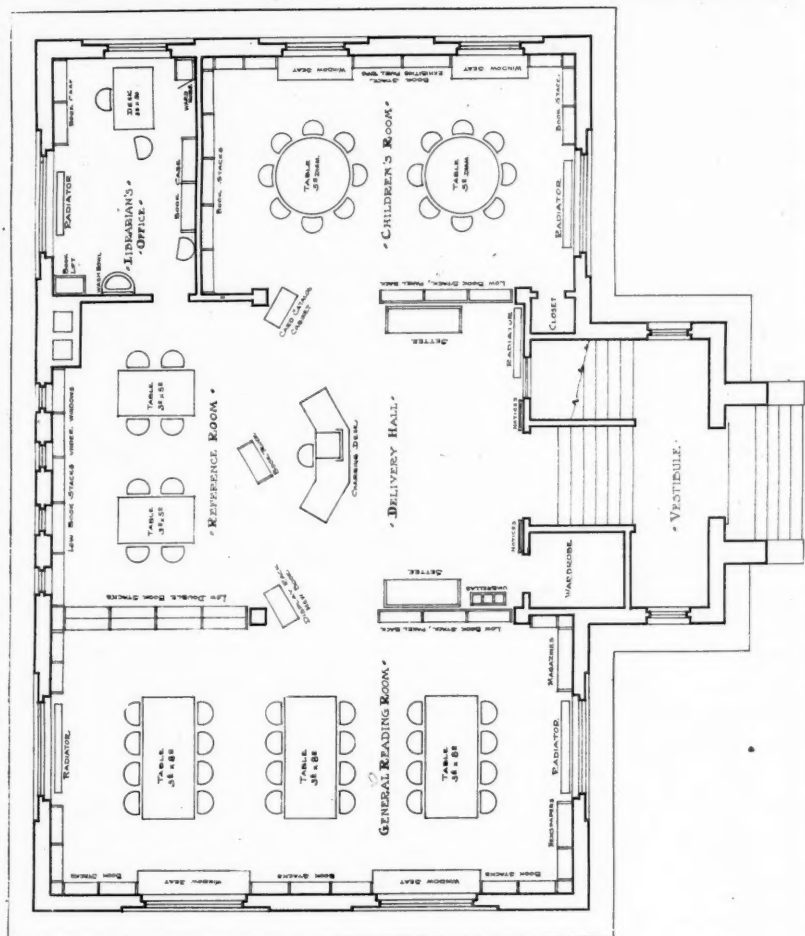
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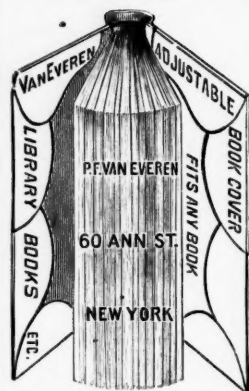
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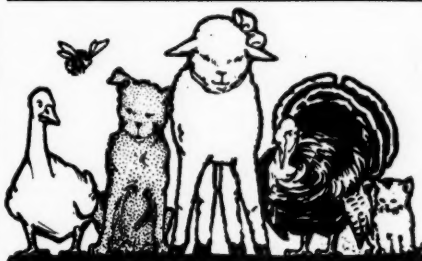
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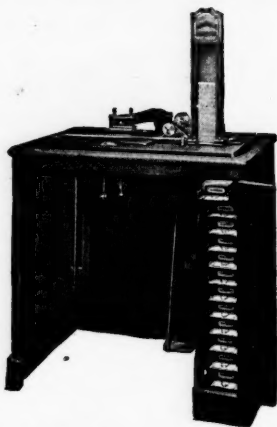
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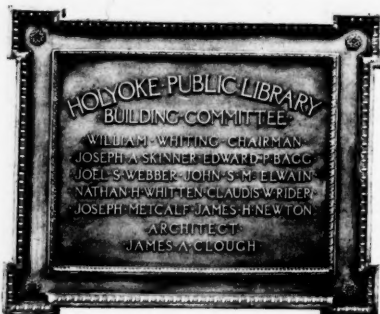
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